

October 9, 2020

Dear Faculty and Staff:

These weekly updates will serve as a tool to keep you informed and engaged with

into implementation so that we can begin to reap the benefits of your careful and time-consuming planning.

I would ask you all for just a bit more patience as we lay the necessary foundation, particularly in terms of data and processes, required to reach our full potential as a R-1 institution, but I would also ask you to reflect on our success implementing many of the task force recommendations. Within the past year, we have:

Faculty development opportunity: National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) This is a reminder that all SMU

institutional membership with the NCFDD. The NCFDD is an independent professional development, training, and mentoring organization that offers support to its members in the form of webinars, collaborations, and weekly emails. As an institutional member of the NCFDD, all interested SMU faculty or graduate students may take advantage of the services offered by visiting www.FacultyDiversity.org to register for a free membership to access the

topics related to faculty life, such as increasing writing productivity, managing time, cultivating mentors, securing external funding, and maintaining work-life balance. If you have questions about participation or would like to speak with faculty who have participated in the past, please reach out to Paige Ware at pware@smu.edu.

Council of Deans retreat recap This Thursday, I hosted the annual full-day

to three strategic priorities for the 2020-2021 academic year. After reviewing priorities and discussing opportunities for synergy, we reviewed a draft, performance-based funding model that I hope to implement within Academic Affairs in time for the 2021

Dedman College, and his research team for their \$18 million award from the U.S. Department of Defense. This award will allow Dr. Stump and his team to continue their global observations and research using acoustic and seismic waves to better understand when nuclear tests, large earthquakes, and other

Fall 2020

Flu shots are available in remote locations as well as in Expressway Towers

