

*US News and World Report* top 50, 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 send your ideas to this [email address](#). Previous newsletters are available [here](#).

Today's update falls into three categories: 1) Fall 2022, 2) Road to R1: Research and Scholarly/Creative Excellence, and 3) News and Noteworthy.

## Fall 2022

### Board of Trustees Meeting Recap

Yesterday and today, I had two opportunities to provide Academic Affairs updates to SMU's Board of Trustees.

#### Committee on Academic Affairs

During Thursday afternoon's committee meeting, I reviewed cost estimates to significantly advance our goals for

Vaccination can help you minimize your chance of getting the flu. We encourage all SMU students, faculty and staff to get their flu shot. Click [here](#) for more information on available options.

## Reminders from Previous Weeks

### Invitation to Participate in December Commencement

Please access the [December Commencement RSVP](#) webpage by end of day today to let us know if you will attend the December ceremony and participate in the academic procession. Clark Hunt '87, chairman and CEO of the Kansas City Chiefs and FC Dallas and member of SMU's Board of Trustees, will be the commencement speaker.

Prior to the ceremony, there will be a faculty breakfast beginning at 7:45 a.m. in the Miller Champions Club in the Miller Event Center, directly inside the entrance to the Coliseum on Binkley Avenue. [If you want to attend the breakfast, please RSVP by clicking here](#). The deadline to RSVP for the breakfast is **Friday, December 9th**, by 4:00 p.m.

## Road to R-1: Research and Scholarly/Creative Excellence

### Call for President's Partners Grants

The President's Partners Program was inaugurated by SMU's President, R. Gerald Turner, to support teaching and research efforts by faculty and staff. All full-time faculty and staff are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$5,000. These grants fund equipment that enhances the work of faculty and staff in furthering our commitment to the SMU experience. This can include materials related to teaching and research or administrative and support supplies. Applications should be submitted to the Provost's Office at [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto:facultysuccess@smu.edu) no later than Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Each application will be reviewed by a committee comprised of faculty and staff. Application instructions and a cover sheet template can be found [here](#).

### Sam Taylor Fellowship Call for Proposals Announced

All full-time faculty are encll

