SAVE THE DATE  November 7-10, 2019

GO BIG AND COME HOME
SMU HOMECOMING WEEKEND 2019

THURSDAY
November 7
SMU DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS
Recognizing extraordinary achievement, outstanding character and good citizenship

FRIDAY
November 8
CLASS REUNIONS
SMU Undergraduate Classes
Cox School of Business Graduate Classes
Dedman School of Law Graduate Classes

SATURDAY
November 9
HOMECOMING PARADE AND SMU REUNION VILLAGE
Food, family activities and more!
SMU vs. EAST CAROLINA

For more information, please visit smu.edu/homecoming.
Game Changer On The Boulevard

Located at the corner of Bishop Boulevard and Binkley Avenue, the new multi-purpose Indoor Performance Center, featuring Armstrong Fieldhouse, supports SMU’s commitment to outstanding facility resources for the entire campus community. One of the first major events at Armstrong Fieldhouse will be the annual SMU Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony and banquet on November 7 during Homecoming Weekend.

Mustangs Excel In Business

“Admit that you don’t have all the answers,” says SMU Trustee David Huntley ’80, chief compliance officer and senior executive vice president at AT&T. He and other Mustangs share wisdom gained on their paths to success.

Love And Charity

At Perkins School of Theology, student Stephanie Bohan seeks to enhance her spiritual experience to strengthen her role as executive director of the Agape Clinic, a nonprofit medical operation that serves the underserved in East Dallas.
SMU, Dallas And Beyond

A great university helps build a great city, and the reverse is also true – a great city helps build a great university. SMU and Dallas are proof.

Robert H. Dedman, Jr. ’80, ’84, chair of the SMU Board of Trustees, describes our relationship with our nation’s ninth largest city as “an economic and cultural cauldron of creativity.” Our strategic Dallas location offers limitless potential and countless opportunities to prepare graduates for lifetime success in our own backyard and across the globe. This brazen can-do spirit we share with Dallas is one of SMU’s most potent differentiators.

We call it “SMU, Dallas and Beyond.”

More than a century ago, SMU’s founders had a bold vision for a university on the Texas prairie that captured the imaginations of the region’s business pioneers and philanthropists. The attraction continues today. SMU is a recognized talent importer for 24 Fortune 500 headquarters in the Dallas-Fort Worth area – with 50 percent of our students choosing to relocate here from other states. Together, SMU and Dallas create a global gateway that shapes and positions graduates for success, no matter what paths they pursue.

We also play an essential role in preparing the diverse talent our region needs to fuel its economic engine into the 21st century. In this issue of SMU Magazine, we shine a light on our deepening relationship with Dallas – past, present and future. This is the third area of focus in our exploration of the four key messages that define SMU and set us apart on the shifting higher education landscape. They include “Research with Impact,” “Enterprising Spirit” and “Welcoming Community.”

In these pages, you’ll learn more about the art and the science that make Big D like no other city. First, we celebrate Dallas’ rich legacy of philanthropy – demonstrated through the contributions of its earliest leaders. This generosity has served as the foundation for SMU’s vision and growth for decades. This year, the Meadows School of the Arts marks the 50th anniversary of its naming for benefactor Algur H. Meadows, one of Dallas’ early oil industry leaders, who graciously shared his eye for art and his heart for education with SMU.

In addition, you’ll catch a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the fact-finding and brainstorming phase of the groundbreaking STEM-school project. Powered by the innovative collaboration of SMU, Toyota Foundation, the Dallas Independent School District and the West Dallas community, this unique partnership is reinventing relationship opportunities for education, community and business – for Dallas and beyond.

I invite you to join us for this Mustang adventure. We may come here from different places and parts, but SMU is the place we can all call home. Pony Up!

President R. Gerald Turner

Together, SMU and Dallas create a global gateway that shapes and positions graduates for success, no matter what paths they pursue.

Designers The Matchbox Studio, Becky Wade
Photography Hillsman Jackson, Laura Graham ’17, Kim Leeson, Guy Rogers III, Allison Slomowitz
Printer ColorDynamics

Southern Methodist University (SMU) will not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, education activity, or admissions on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. SMU’s commitment to equal opportunity includes nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression. The Executive Director for Access and Equity/Title IX Coordinator is designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies, including the prohibition of sex discrimination under Title IX. The Executive Director/Title IX Coordinator may be reached at the Perkins Administration Building, Room 204, 6124 Boaz Lane, Dallas, TX 75205, 214-768-3601, accessequity@smu.edu. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX may also be directed to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education.

The SMU community celebrated the beginning of a new era on the Boulevard with the dedication of the Indoor Performance Center, featuring Armstrong Fieldhouse, on September 6.

Located at the corner of Bishop Boulevard and Binkley Avenue, the multipurpose Indoor Performance Center features an indoor turf field as well as training, fitness and special event spaces.

Many generous donors made the Indoor Performance Center possible, including Bill Armstrong ’82, Liz Martin Armstrong ’82 and The Armstrong Foundation; Paul B. Loyd, Jr. ’68 and Penny R. Loyd; David B. Miller ’72, ’73, Carolyn L. Miller and The David B. Miller Family Foundation; Gary T. Crum ’69 and Sylvie P. Crum; and Garry A. Weber ’58.

In addition, there were 19 donors of $100,000 and higher, with 10 making gifts of $1 million each and nine making six-figure commitments.

Constructed in a Collegiate Georgian architectural style that blends with the traditional campus environment, the new venue supports SMU’s commitment to outstanding facility resources for the entire campus community. One of the first major events at Armstrong Fieldhouse will be the annual SMU Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony and banquet on November 7 during Homecoming Weekend.

The Indoor Performance Center is located in the heart of campus on the former site of Perkins Natatorium and Barr Pool, in close proximity to the Loyd All-Sports Center. The 67,000-square-foot brick building faces Owen Arts Center, the renovation of which will kick off on Friday, November 8, at 4 p.m., during Homecoming Weekend. Together, these investments in the student experience will transform the Boulevard.

**FEATURED SPACES**
- **Armstrong Fieldhouse** includes two scoreboards, a video board, glass roll-up doors and translucent panels above the practice field to let in natural light. Housing the Weber Observation Deck and Loyd Field, Armstrong Fieldhouse incorporates tributes to SMU’s most famous football alumni.
- **Loyd Field** is outfitted with the same playing surface as Ford Stadium and will increase training flexibility for many of SMU’s sports programs, particularly during inclement weather. This space may be used by other campus and student groups when not programmed by Athletics.
- **Miller Boulevard Ballroom** is located on the ground floor, inside the main entrance off Bishop Boulevard. It serves as a multipurpose space that can accommodate banquets, presentations, meetings, hospitality and other social gatherings for athletics, as well as campus and community events.
- **Crum Terrace**, located on the second floor and visible from Bishop Boulevard and Binkley Avenue, is a premier outdoor event space.
- **Weber Observation Deck**, located indoors on the second floor, overlooks the Armstrong Fieldhouse and offers prime views of practices and other activities on Loyd Field.

The Indoor Performance Center also houses a recruiting suite with a lounge, hospitality room and a display showcasing great moments and players in SMU’s athletics history; a weight room with access to Loyd Field; and Letterwinners Plaza, a testament to over 100 years of SMU football history.

To make a gift to the Indoor Performance Center, or for more information, visit smu.edu/mag19IPC.
Wider communities. Now, with the construction of the Gerald J. Ford Hall for Research and Innovation, SMU’s student and faculty research initiatives will be transformed, pushing the boundaries of knowledge and innovation."

Researchers at SMU already are working with industry and community partners on diverse projects such as cloud computing and internet security, adult literacy and cancer research. With recent investments in computing capacity, the recruitment of specialized faculty expertise and investments in facilities such as Ford Hall, SMU plans more collaborative research projects like these in the next decade and beyond.

“This is a critical step in SMU’s journey to strengthen its research capabilities,” Ford said. “The University is creating an exciting space for bold doers and collaborators. It’s the next step in SMU’s ascendance as a premier research and teaching university, and my family and I are honored to play a role in this process.”

The interior will be highly flexible to accommodate groups of all sizes from small huddle spaces to large classes, presentations, competitions and performances. All spaces offer high-performance video capabilities to facilitate real-time interaction among researchers, students and collaborators.

SMU took a giant leap forward in the rapidly shifting digital frontier with the groundbreaking of the Gerald J. Ford Hall for Research and Innovation on February 22. SMU Trustee Gerald J. Ford ’66, ’69, his wife, Kelli O. Ford, and The Gerald J. Ford Family Foundation provided a $15 million lead gift to help fund construction of the 50,000-square-foot interdisciplinary research hub, which will equip faculty, students and industry partners with tools and resources to collaborate, solve complex problems and power new enterprises.

The new facility will be located on SMU’s main campus at the corner of McFarlin Boulevard and Airline Road. Ford Hall will serve as the home to SMU’s AT&T Center for Virtualization, the Dedman College Interdisciplinary Institute, high-performance computing and data science, the new innovative Visualization Lab and the Guildhall, the Hart eCenter’s top-ranked digital game design program.

As digital explorers, both undergraduate and graduate students will work alongside faculty and industry professionals in this new data-driven nerve center. Ford Hall will expand the University’s use of high-performance computing for interdisciplinary collaborations and help SMU attract greater levels of external research funding.

“With this gift, Gerald Ford is continuing his extraordinary legacy as a catalyst for excellence and growth for the University,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. “His earlier vision and lead gift for Ford Stadium has attracted tens of thousands of visitors to SMU each year and energized the campus and wider communities. Now, with the construction of the Gerald J. Ford Hall for Research and Innovation, SMU’s student and faculty research initiatives will be transformed, pushing the boundaries of knowledge and innovation."

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Gerald J. Ford
Gerald J. Ford is one of the nation’s most accomplished financial services executives. Over the past 40 years, he has acquired, managed and sold banking businesses and other financial services companies, including First United Bank Group Inc., First Gibraltar Bank, FSB, Golden State Bancorp and Pacific Capital Bancorp. Ford currently serves as chair of Hilltop Holdings Inc. He is a managing member of and principal investor in Ford Financial Fund II, L.P., a private equity firm. Ford also is the principal
shareholder of First Acceptance Corporation, a nonstandard auto insurance company. He currently is the nonexecutive chairman of the board of Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. In addition, he is a director of Scientific Games Corporation and Mechanics Bank.

Ford’s strong ties to SMU date from his student days. He earned a B.A. degree in economics from Dedman College in 1966 and a J.D. degree from what is now the Dedman School of Law in 1969. He was honored with SMU’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 1995 and the Mustang Award in 1997, which recognizes significant philanthropic contributions to the University.

He previously served as chairman of SMU’s Board of Trustees and currently serves as a trustee and on the Campaign Leadership Council. He is a former member of the executive boards of Cox School of Business, Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, Dedman School of Law and of the Board of Directors of John Goodwin Tower Center for Public Policy and International Affairs.

An active community leader, Ford is a trustee of Southwestern Medical Foundation and Children’s Medical Foundation. Beyond Dallas, he has served on the board of overseers of Cornell University’s Weill Medical College and its Graduate School of Medical Sciences.

In addition to the lead gift for Ford Hall, Ford established the Gerald J. Ford Research Fellows program at SMU in 2003, which annually honors outstanding faculty members with funding to support their research and creative endeavors. To date, 68 professors have been named Ford Research Fellows. And in 1997, he provided the lead gift for the Mustangs’ football stadium, which revitalized the campus experience for athletes, other students and supporters.

KELLI O. FORD

Kelli O. Ford co-owns the design firm KirstenKelli LLC, based in Dallas and Greenwich, Conn., and the Dallas retail home store, Madison. For more than 25 years, Mrs. Ford and Kirsten Fitzgibbons, her sister and business partner, have served clients around the world. Their modern, classic style has been featured in Architectural Digest, Veranda, House Beautiful and other home décor publications.

Mrs. Ford is a member of the Tate Distinguished Lecture Series Board at SMU and a former member of the Meadows School of the Arts Executive Board. In Dallas, her volunteer service has included the Children’s Health Foundation Board; the board of visitors for UT Southwestern University Hospitals and Clinics; the board of trustees for The Hockaday School; and the George W. Bush Institute Women’s Initiative Advisory Council, at the invitation of former First Lady Laura Bush ’68.

Mrs. Ford previously served on the Dallas Symphony Orchestra’s board of governors and was the 2012 chairman of the Sweetheart Ball Committee. Beyond Dallas, she serves on the board of trustees for Greenwich Academy and on its Advancement Committee, in Greenwich, Conn.; the board of overseers of Cornell’s Weill Medical College in New York; and the board of directors of the Irvington Institute for Immunological Research in Irvington, N.Y.

In Dallas, Mrs. Ford is involved with the Brook Hollow Golf Club and the Dallas Country Club. In New York, she is active with the Maidstone Club in East Hampton, The Meadow Club in Southampton, the New York Yacht Club in New York City, The Bathing Corporation of Southampton and Shinnecock Hills, both

The Fords at the groundbreaking ceremony.

in Southampton. She also is a member of the Bel-Air Country Club in Los Angeles and the Lyford Cay Club in the Bahamas. She holds a bachelor’s degree in writing from St. Lawrence University, where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

The Fords have two daughters, Electra and Kelli, and he has four other children, Amy Ford Prestidge ’95, Jeremy Ford, Jordan Ford and Maegan Ford Nicholson.

For more information: smu.edu/mag19Ford.
Recent gifts by longtime SMU donors and prominent Dallas business leaders Linda Wertheimer Hart ’65 and SMU Trustee Emeritus Milledge (Mitch) A. Hart, III will enhance the University’s ability to cultivate and launch entrepreneurs for North Texas and beyond and provide greater financial support for graduate education to U.S. Marine Corps veterans. The Harts are among SMU’s most generous donors.

A significant new gift establishes the Linda and Mitch Hart Institute for Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship that will combine the innovative forces of SMU’s Cox School of Business and Lyle School of Engineering.

The Hart Institute will amplify the University’s impact as a powerful engine of regional economic development and job creation. The two schools will integrate their existing expertise, resources and guidance to develop technology prototypes and create viable business plans.

“SMU will play a major role in the formation of new enterprises and cross-disciplinary ventures thanks to the Harts’ generosity and vision,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner.

The Hart Institute will advance SMU’s goal to promote technology and entrepreneurship through five key components: Business Plan Competition Award, Entrepreneur-in-Residence, Graduate Fellowships, Faculty Fellows and Technology Transfer Fund.

In addition, military veterans aspiring to SMU’s innovative graduate education in engineering and business have a new scholarship opportunity with the Milledge A. Hart, III Scholarship Fund for Veterans of the United States Marine Corps. The endowed fund was established in January by Mrs. Hart to honor her husband on his 85th birthday.

Each year, in perpetuity, the scholarship will support one or two graduate students who are U.S. Marine Corps veterans and enrolled in the Lyle School of Engineering or the Cox School of Business.

“Providing learning environments and new opportunities at SMU for students to pursue bold ideas has brought both Linda and me such joy,” said Mitch Hart, a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy who served five years as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. “A scholarship in my name that opens doors for military veterans heading toward boundless achievement is a wonderful tribute.”

The Harts have founded, supported and enhanced many educational opportunities at SMU. In 2018 they committed a significant gift to the Gerald J. Ford Hall for Research and Innovation, which will house the Linda and Mitch Hart eCenter, which includes SMU Guildhall, the world’s top-ranked graduate game design program. The Harts also have made gifts to support the Hart Global Leaders Forum and the Hart Center for Engineering Leadership. Both serve on the board of directors for the Tate Distinguished Lecture Series. They received SMU’s Mustang Award in 2003 in recognition of their exceptional philanthropic support of the University.

For more information: smu.edu/mag19Harts and smu.edu/mag19veterans.

Gift Expands Profile Of Tsai Center For Law, Science And Innovation

A recent $2 million gift expands the profile of SMU’s Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation as a leading academic platform for multidisciplinary research and scholarly debate surrounding new technologies.

Located within SMU Dedman School of Law, the academic center brings together experts from the legal, scientific and business communities to explore the complex challenges presented by the evolving innovation ecosystem. Such topics as artificial intelligence, digital currency, intellectual property and data privacy have been explored through faculty research, educational programming and student engagement opportunities since the Tsai Center was launched in 2015.

“The Tsai Center has already sparked significant faculty scholarship on legal issues linked to emerging technologies,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner.

“This additional support allows the center to strengthen collaborations across disciplines that result in these forces coming together in remarkable ways, facilitating deep study of important matters within the ever-changing legal, innovation and discovery landscapes.”

The new gift was made by the same anonymous Dedman Law alumnus who generously provided the $3.125 million gift to establish the center. It will be split between endowment and current operational funding, and provides additional resources for research grants, programs and curricula.

Current research projects supported by the Tsai Center include studies of fingerprint technology and tax implications of artificial intelligence, as well as a digital tool for keeping track of litigation involving government watch lists.

For more information: smu.edu/mag19Tsai.
Bromberg Bequest Inspired By Lifelong Interests

A planned gift to SMU by Anne R. Bromberg of Dallas honors a life filled with intellectual adventure and global exploration that she shared with her beloved husband, the late Alan R. Bromberg. He served as University Distinguished Professor of Law at SMU’s Dedman School of Law until his death in 2014.

The bequest includes a $2 million endowment to establish the Anne and Alan Bromberg Chair in the Meadows School of the Arts, as well as unrestricted funds to be divided among Dedman Law, the Meadows School and the Meadows Museum.

“Dr. Bromberg’s farsighted generosity reflects the dedication to scholarship and education that she and Alan shared over a lifetime,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. “Their passion for art and the law will live on in future generations as a result of the planned gift.”

“Alan loved being an SMU law professor, and he also had a keen interest in art, photography and culture,” Bromberg said. “I’ve had long conversations with SMU about how the bequest might be used, and I respect their vision that encompasses our interests that were so closely interwoven.”

Bromberg is the Cecil and Ida Green Curator for Ancient Art at the Dallas Museum of Art, where she has worked for more than 50 years, lecturing, training docents and writing books. Her late husband taught at SMU Dedman School of Law for more than 60 years and was a prolific author. His legal writings on corporate tax, partnership, securities and commodities have been relied upon in more than 500 judicial opinions.

In 2015 she established the Alan R. Bromberg Centennial Chair in Corporate, Partnership and Securities Law in Dedman Law.

Davis Named New AVP For Principal And Major Gifts

Blake Davis brings more than a decade of experience in higher education development to his new role as the assistant vice president for principal and major gifts for SMU’s Division of Development and External Affairs.

Davis will oversee expansion of SMU’s principal and major gifts fundraising efforts as well as the corporate and foundation relations and gift planning programs.

He comes to SMU from the University of Chicago where he served as managing director of development for the Becker Friedman Institute, Energy Policy Institute and the Division of the Social Sciences. He also worked directly with donors and institutional leadership in securing significant commitments at the major and principal gift levels.

Davis also served at Wharton School of Business, the University of Washington and Iowa State University. He earned an M.B.A. from Emporia State University.

PONY POWER CONTINUES IMPACT WITH $52 MILLION IN YEAR 2

SMU’s Pony Power: Strengthening the Stampede raised more than $52 million in current-use gifts in its second year, ending May 31. In the first two years of SMU’s fundraising initiative, more than 28,000 donors have generated more than $109 million in financial support that directly impact today’s students and faculty.

In the past year, funds from Pony Power have, among other projects, supported the Perkins Scholars program for Master of Divinity students; expanded Lyle School of Engineering summer camps for underrepresented kids; and completed construction on the Dedman College’s new ancient DNA lab with the addition of a highly secured research laboratory.

Leading Pony Power are co-chairs Carl Sewell ’66 and Caren Prothro, who said, “We’ve achieved yet another year of Pony Power where we have not only met, but exceeded our goals. This success is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers, whose efforts are bringing real change to SMU.”

To keep the momentum going for year three by making a gift, visit smu.edu/ponypower.

Blake Davis

Anne Bromberg (right) with Dedman School of Law Dean Jennifer M. Collins.
Researchers at SMU’s Center for Drug Discovery, Design and Delivery (CD4) have succeeded in lab testing the use of chemotherapy with a specific protein inhibitor so that the chemotherapeutic medication is better absorbed by drug-resistant cancer cells without harming healthy cells. The approach could pave the way for a more effective way to treat cancers that are resistant to treatment.

A mix of drugs is frequently used to shrink cancer tumors or keep tumor cells from spreading to other parts of the body. But chemotherapy is so toxic that the mix often kills healthy cells, too, causing dreadful side effects for cancer patients. And eventually, many cancers learn how to resist chemotherapy, making it less effective over time.

“When multidrug resistance evolves, this leaves the patient with a very poor prognosis for survival and the oncologist with few, if any, effective tools, such as chemotherapy medicines, to treat what is very likely an aggressive and/or metastatic cancer at this point,” said John Wise, associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and co-author of a study on the findings published in PLOS One.

Much of the research led by CD4 director Pia Vogel and Wise is centered on a class of proteins called ABC transporters, a key factor in why many cancers resist chemotherapy.

“These transporters are defensive proteins and are normally very, very good for us. They protect us from toxic chemicals by literally pumping them out of the cell, almost like a sump pump removes water from one’s cellar,” Vogel said.

But when someone has cancer, these proteins do more harm than good.

“One protein, P-glycoprotein, can pump nearly all chemotherapeutics out of the cancer cell, thereby making the cancer resistant to many drugs and untreatable,” Wise noted.

For this reason, SMU researchers tested the combination of using an inhibitor that temporarily shuts down P-glycoprotein’s ability to remove drugs from the cancer cells along with chemotherapeutics on prostate cancer cells grown in the lab, which have been shown to be resistant to multiple chemotherapeutic drugs.

The SMU team was able to show that if inhibitors of P-glycoprotein are used during and after the multidrug-resistant cancer cells have been exposed to the chemotherapy drugs, then the cancer cells become much more sensitive to the chemotherapeutics.

Former Presidents Visit Campus

Who says that nothing happens on the SMU campus during the summer months? Former Presidents George W. Bush (43), right, and Bill Clinton (42), left, took time to visit the SMU campus on June 27 while attending the Presidential Leadership Scholars alumni event and graduation activities held at the George W. Bush Presidential Center. In its fifth year, the annual leadership program is a partnership among the presidential centers of George W. Bush, William J. Clinton, George H.W. Bush and Lyndon B. Johnson. The program is designed to provide support to future leaders in any sector with the practical skills needed to drive solution-oriented action. Mid-career individuals participate in a six-month program conducting case studies of key leadership decisions made by these former presidents. Bush and Clinton dropped in on a youth arts summit held at the Owen Arts Center, where they were greeted on behalf of the University by Brad Cheves, center, SMU vice president for development and external affairs.
Eight Mustangs To Watch In Preseason Football List

Eight Mustangs were named 2019 Athlon Sports All-American Athletic Conference preseason selections.

Senior James Proche led SMU as a first-team offense honoree, as well as a fourth-team specialist. A 2018 All-AAC selection, Proche led the Mustangs with 93 receptions for 1,199 yards and 12 touchdowns. He was also SMU’s top returner with 20 punt returns for 165 yards and 12 kick returns for 276 yards. Proche led the conference and was in the top 12 nationally in receptions per game, receiving TDs, receiving yards per game and receiving yards.

Additional offensive selections include wide receiver Reggie Roberson, Jr., third team, and quarterback Shane Buechele (joining in the fall), running back Xavier Jones and offensive lineman Hayden Howerton, fourth team.

On defense, linebacker Richard Moore, safety Rodney Clemons and defensive end Delontae Scott were selected to the second team.

The Mustangs open the 2019 season on the road Aug. 31 at Arkansas State, before hosting North Texas on Sept. 7 and Texas State on Sept. 14 at Gerald J. Ford Stadium. The final nonconference game takes SMU across the Metroplex to face rival TCU on Sept. 21 in the Battle for the Iron Skillet.

SMU hosts AAC West Division opponents Tulsa, Oct. 5, and Tulane, Nov. 30, while the road slate features a Thursday evening matchup at Houston on Oct. 24, and Saturday contests at Memphis, Nov. 2, and Navy, Nov. 23. East Division games include Temple, Oct. 19, and ECU, Nov. 9, at home and USF, Sept. 28, on the road.

Senior Equestrians Win Titles At NCEA Championship

Senior equestrian team captains Nora Gray and Madison Steed were named National Collegiate Equestrian Association Rider of the Year. Gray clinched the honor in Equitation over Fences and Steed earned the award in Reining.

The pair were victorious in their events at the NCEA Championship in April in Waco, with Steed winning four of her five rides at Nationals and Gray posting an undefeated 4-0 over fences and an additional two wins on the flat.

The Canada natives each propelled SMU to an unprecedented season of glory that saw the Mustangs successfully defend their 2018 UEC Championship, earning a back-to-back tournament trophy in 2019 and rising up as the first team to win the UEC twice and the only team to take home the championship while not being the host school.

For the first time in school history, SMU Equestrian eclipsed their opponents to earn a spot in the NCEA Tournament Event Finals, where the Mustangs were crowned National Championship Runners-Up in Reining, after a hard-fought battle with the Georgia Bulldogs.

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Reggie Roberson

Richard Moore

For ticket information, call the Athletics Department Ticket Office at (214) SMU-GAME (768-4263).
competed in three NCAA Cross Country Championships during her college career. On the track, she set the then-school record in the 3,000-meter steeplechase and earned All-America honors in 2007. She also qualified for the 2008 Olympic Trials in the steeplechase.

Haynes earned a Master’s in Sports Administration with a focus in marketing and public relations from Northwestern University.

For more information: smumustangs.com
After leading the SMU men’s swimming program as head coach since 1989, Eddie Sinnott ’76 has transitioned into a new role. “After 30 years of serving as head coach at my alma mater, I felt it was time for a change,” Sinnott said. “This transition will allow me to be an ambassador for SMU swimming, helping build community support and raise funds for the program I love so dearly.”

Most recently, Sinnott, along with women’s head coach Steve Collins, was instrumental in fundraising for the new Robson & Lindley Aquatics Center and Barr-McMillion Natatorium. The 16-time conference Coach of the Year has led the Mustangs to 16 league crowns in the past 23 seasons. Under Sinnott, SMU recorded 11 NCAA top-15 finishes, 80 individual All-America honors and 59 relay honors, and 288 conference championships. Sinnott was selected by his peers for the 2019 National Collegiate Scholastic Trophy, presented annually by both the CSCAA and the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association to the coach who has made the greatest contribution to swimming as a competitive sport.

At press time, former Mustang swimmer and All-American Greg Rhodenbaugh ’85 had been named SMU’s head men’s swimming coach.

Accolades For Track And Field

Senior Nicole Iloanya finished 17th at the NCAA Championships in the triple jump in June in Austin, finishing her career with an Honorable Mention All-American performance. She won a bronze at the American Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships in the triple jump while also competing in the long jump and the 4x100 relay. She was the only AAC competitor to advance to the NCAA Championships in the triple jump.

In addition, junior Chelsea Francis placed 21st in the 100 meter at the NCAA Championships, earning honorable mention All-American status. She qualified for the NCAA Championships in the Indoor (60m) and Outdoor (100m).

SMU Track and Field finished third at the AAC Outdoor Championships at Wichita State’s Cessna Stadium in May. Mustangs earning medals included Hannah Miller, gold in the 5,000 meter and silver in the 10,000 meter; Francis, gold in both the 100 meter and 200 meter; Madison Pyle, silver in the 400 hurdles; Chika Iwuamadi, silver in the 400 meter; and Svenja Ojstersek, bronze in the 5,000 meter. The Mustangs 4x400 relay team of Francis, Iwuamadi, Pyle and Ashton Woods earned a bronze in the event.

Varsity Eight Claims A First

For the first time in program history, SMU stood at the top of the podium in the V8, rowing’s premier event. The Mustangs defeated four-time defending champion UCF by open water in May at the American Athletic Conference Championships in Oklahoma City.

The Mustangs also claimed a gold medal in the 3V4, as well as a silver medal and three bronze medals, the only program to claim podium spots in all six events. “The depth of our team cannot be overstated,” said head coach Kim Cupini. “To be the only program with all six of our crews on the podium is a great accomplishment.”

The Mustangs finished four points behind UCF in the team standings, 180-176, the smallest margin in conference history. The second-place finish is the highest at a conference championship regatta in program history.

SMU’s Varsity Eight was named American Athletic Conference Boat of the Year. The crew comprised coxswain Emily Fogg, Brittany Rigg, Trevor Rose, Erin Pierce, Juliet Traylor, Madison van Meel, Megan Scott, Melissa Bradford and Peyton Mathews.
In an industry that shifts at the speed of data, David Huntley embraces change. “If you can’t, you’ll limit your career options,” he says.

After earning a law degree, Huntley joined AT&T more than two decades ago as a junior lawyer. When he was offered leadership roles in other areas of the business, he seized those opportunities. As he was rising through the ranks, he never forgot advice he received as a student from then-SMU Dean of Students Bob Leach. “He told me, ‘Never take no for an answer.’ These are great words to live by,” Huntley says. “Don’t let anyone ever stop you from achieving what you set out to do.”

Sharing wisdom gained along his C-suite path, Huntley stresses the value of “seeking out people who can help you throughout your journey. Some will be mentors: People willing to lend advice and help you find your way,” he explains. “Others will be sponsors: People that won’t simply mentor you, but advocate on your behalf and champion your efforts. Having both will help you reach the career aspirations you’ve set for yourself.”

CAREER PATHS TODAY ARE COMPARED MORE OFTEN TO JUNGLE GYMS THAN TO LADDERS. SO, WE ASKED ALUMNI MASTERS OF THE PROFESSIONAL MAZE TO SHARE INSIGHTS THEY’VE ACQUIRED WHILE FORGING AHEAD. ONE DEFINING CHARACTERISTIC THEY HAVE IN COMMON: THEY DON’T LET FEAR GET IN THEIR WAY. WHEN THEY HAVE A VISION, MUSTANGS ARE UNSTOPPABLE.
As a startup, we appreciate experimentation and testing new ideas, which are relatively incompatible with being perfect. It’s the same with people. We’re all fallible. And it’s important to just be a good person, someone who is adaptable, who is inclusive and who embraces and demands diversity.

Matt Alexander writes, speaks and thinks like an English major. And that’s one of the young entrepreneur’s secrets to betting on brick-and-mortar commerce in the age of Amazon.

“Retail is, ultimately, an industry predicated upon storytelling,” Alexander says. His Neighborhood Goods is branded as “A Department Store with a Story.” The 14,000-square-foot flagship opened at Plano’s Legacy West in fall 2018. An ever-changing array of products for women, men, children and the home rotates through the gleaming space. The novel construct keeps things fresh and draws consumers back to see what’s new.

With an infusion of $14.5 million in venture capital, the Dallas-based startup will open a second location in New York City’s Chelsea Market in the fall.

“Becoming a decent entrepreneur is largely an effort in becoming extremely aware of your own shortcomings,” Alexander says. Over the years, he has been going through cycles of self-discovery that have “been entirely necessary, but have never been easy.”

To be a leader, you have to be self-aware, and dance is the best way to absolutely understand who you are as an individual in space. You have to learn about yourself, to study yourself. It’s metaphorical, but studying your physical self does lead to having a clearer appreciation of what your other abilities are.

Dance major Alfreda Norman choreographed a career propelled by unexpected turns. An internship at the Dallas Arts District morphed into a job administering its foundation and managing programming. That led to a position in the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. She was working there when Bank of America came knocking on her door with an offer to become one of its first neighborhood development officers in Texas.

Norman’s next career leap was joining the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in 2004. Today, she oversees the Dallas Fed’s communications and public outreach programs.

Although she also has a graduate degree in retail banking, Norman credits her Meadows experience with boosting her business career. “Like art,” she says, “leading is based on hard work and discipline and doing lots of little things right.”
Be authentic. When you’re always true to yourself, others respond to that genuineness, giving you the ability to connect with a diverse range of people. And be distinctive. Embrace the opportunity to get out of your comfort zone and try new things. Change is constant, and you have to be able to look for the positive and chart your own path to create your own future.

Shortly after scoring the job of his dreams with Nike, Marc Patrick learned to be ready for anything. He responded to each new twist with the same determination. “Just do it” may have been coined for Nike, but the slogan encapsulates Patrick’s career philosophy.

He and his wife were newlyweds, putting down roots in Chicago, when their world was turned upside down. A company reorganization required them to relocate to Oregon.

“It was disruptive, scary and unexpected,” Patrick says. “However, it led me to an even better position at Nike’s world headquarters that accelerated my career path and opened the door to many new experiences.”

Since then, he has managed an international team at the company’s European headquarters in Hilversum, The Netherlands; launched international campaigns for the megabrand; reset the strategic focus for Nike’s golf category through a new global mission, vision and brand position; and worked with a galaxy of sports superstars, including Serena Williams.

When he looks back on those milestones, advice from one of his professors, Alice Kendrick, Marriott Family Endowed Professor of Advertising at SMU, rings true: “You never know until you try.”
Empathy is a leadership attribute that serves us well in both our personal and professional lives. We can have a more positive influence on the lives of those around us when we can put ourselves in their shoes. At the end of the day, people will forget what we said or did, but they will never forget how we made them feel.

Thear Suzuki had a plan. After graduating from SMU, she was going to medical school. To earn money for her future education, she found a job at Anderson Consulting. That short-term detour led to a high-profile career in consulting and leadership development. Today, she guides programs to attract, retain and develop more than 21,000 EY advisory professionals across two continents.

Early in her work life, learning to speak up and voice her opinion was a difficult lesson to master, but this skill made all the difference in her trajectory. Helping others find their voices has been her passion ever since.

Suzuki was among the 2019 Presidential Leadership Scholars to graduate from the prestigious program presented by the presidential centers of George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Lyndon B. Johnson. Looking at leadership through the lens of the presidency cemented her belief that the best solutions come from an extended ecosystem.

“We can all lead inclusively by cultivating a broad network and intentionally bringing in diverse perspective,” she says. “Listen to those different than you, understand their experiences and consider their ideas.”

It’s difficult to resist the temptation, but it’s a mistake to compare yourself to other companies or competitors. There will always be someone who is more successful. You can’t let that affect you. You’ve got to believe in what you’re doing, and focus on your goals. Benchmark yourself against yourself.

Natalie Wolfe’s mantra is “Don’t let fear get in your way.” As it turns out, her bold attitude and natural curiosity – a perfect fit for her journalism major – also fuel her business.

Inspired by her workout experiences, she and husband Ryan Wolfe created StudioHop, a digital service that provides memberships to a variety of boutique fitness studios. The app quickly gained traction. Two years in, Ryan left his work in banking and private equity to helm StudioHop’s finances full time.

Now the four-year-old company generates more than $1 million annually.

Still, unwelcome surprises occasionally bubble up. That’s why resilience has been so important, she says. “It’s a roller-coaster ride. You’ll be on top of the world, then there’s an unexpected setback,” she says. “When that happens, you have to put on your happy face and get over it for the rest of the team.”
SMU's Simmons School of Education and Human Development forged a pathbreaking partnership with Toyota, the Dallas Independent School District and the West Dallas community to create a national model for PreK-8 education. The community-based West Dallas STEM School will prepare underserved students for a wide range of college and career opportunities. Housed in the former L.G. Pinkston High School, reimagined and redesigned with flexible instructional spaces that provoke creativity, the school is scheduled to open in 2021. The first year of a three-year planning phase is now complete, and a blueprint for the future is beginning to take shape.
### PLANNING THE PLAN
Led by Dean Stephanie Knight, the Simmons team serves as the backbone organization of the project. Each of the four partners brings slightly different subject matter expertise to bear on the work, but all are committed to supporting student academic achievement and establishing models for the school and the partnership that can be replicated in communities everywhere.

### COMMUNITY VOICES
Trying to understand the needs of sprawling West Dallas through statistics alone is impossible. That’s why bringing neighborhood stakeholders to the table has been crucial to the partnership from the beginning. A volunteer network has been spreading the word about the school, while meetings, focus groups and information sessions give parents, students and other residents a forum to express their ideas. Establishing a strong community relationship early on is often rare in public school development, but it’s a cornerstone of this new model.

### COLLABORATIVE BY DESIGN
Representatives from each of the four partner groups form codesign teams that identify needs, determine strategies and strengthen relationships that will undergird the project for the long term. From the beginning, equity has been paramount. Crucial decisions that will affect the community are being made with West Dallas participation. The needs of students, families and teachers are carefully considered as teams develop frameworks for curriculum, community-embedded social services, professional learning and distributed leadership, building design and research and evaluation.

### DATA EVERY STEP OF THE WAY
The Simmons team is documenting every step, from the beginning of the four-way partnership to what’s happening today, in order to codify a process that can be successfully duplicated and supports longitudinal research. To that end, data and evaluative infrastructure for ongoing and rapid delivery of information to all project partners and eventually to teachers at the model school is being built. With access to a data dashboard used to assess student performance in real time, teachers will put research into practice to address learning issues.

### BOUNDLESS DISCOVERY
A multidisciplinary, project-based STEM curriculum is being explored, where the boundaries of the school building dissolve as students embrace the learning laboratory in their own backyard. For example, in history class, kids could delve into industrial vestiges in the neighborhood, including a now-defunct secondary lead smelter. In science class, they could test soil for latent contaminants and apply those findings in math class, where they plot data and apply predictive analysis models. Connecting the classroom with the community across the learning landscape will provide real-world relevancy to core areas of study.

### LEARNING AND LEADING
Teachers and school leaders have been described as the engineers of academic achievement, and Simmons will be a hand-in-hand collaborator in setting the stage for their success at the model school through development opportunities and pedagogical support. A pilot program for professional learning is underway at Gabe Allen Middle School in West Dallas that will refine strategies that could be applied throughout the school district and offered to nonprofits providing wraparound services.

### WRAPAROUND SERVICES
Integrating wraparound academic and social services into the school’s offerings will address the needs of the whole child. A range of existing community-embedded resources will be woven into a unified and comprehensive system. The first cohort of four organizations from The Budd Center’s School Zone, a network of neighborhood nonprofits, will pilot an innovative approach to programming in-school and out-of-school time with a focus on early childhood development, academic intervention and enrichment, social and emotional health, and community resources.

### THE LONG VIEW
The West Dallas STEM School will serve as an anchor initiative that lays the groundwork for expansion to a “cradle-to-career” pathway, eventually linking early childhood, high school and college and career opportunities in West Dallas. Over time, other elementary schools in the Pinkston feeder pattern could be looped into professional learning groups. The School Zone, Dallas ISD campus innovation strategies and other efforts to create a sustainable talent pipeline that improves the lives of students and strengthens families and their communities.
Since being endowed in 1969, Meadows School of the Arts continues to expand the horizons of creativity. Pianist Yi-Nuo Wang performs with the Meadows Symphony Orchestra on *Rhapsody in Blue* at Meadows at the Winspear.
The names Kathy Bates and Regina Taylor exude star power. Not the red-carpet walking, People magazine notoriety common among Hollywood celebrities, but the heavy-lifting power of two of the top dramatic actresses in the United States. They recently visited SMU as part of the 50th anniversary of their school. Anywhere else, the presence of two high-wattage stars coming together could be overwhelming, but at Meadows School of the Arts, it’s business as usual.

On a day in early May, Meadows alumni Bates ’69 and Taylor ’81 participated in an interview in the lobby of the Bob Hope Theatre. Numerous students listened to the two doyens of American stage, film and television praise the solid foundation and training in theatre they received at Meadows, as well as the discipline and respect they gained for their craft that has served them well throughout their successful careers.

Today, Bates is recognized, among a long list of achievements, for her Academy Award-winning role in Misery. Golden Globe-winner Taylor is known for her roles in I’ll Fly Away and The Unit, as well as her directing and playwriting talents.

During 2019, Meadows is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its naming after Algur H. Meadows, the Dallas oilman, philanthropist and art collector who pledged $8 million in 1969 to endow the arts school at SMU. As part of the celebration, the school has created a 50th anniversary website, smu.edu/meadows50, that features the podcast of the interview between Bates and Taylor, along with other podcasts and stories on alumni and faculty from the past five decades.

BUILDING AN SMU ARTS LEGACY

Algur Meadows’ relationship with the University began in 1962, shortly after the death of his wife, Virginia, to cancer; when through The Meadows Foundation he gave SMU $1 million to endow and construct a museum in her memory to house his collection of Spanish masterpieces that he had amassed while on business trips in Spain during the 1950s. The Meadows Museum opened in 1965 as part of the then-new Owen Arts Center. He also donated his collection of sculptures by contemporary Italian artists to SMU to coincide with the opening of the Owen Arts Center. When most of the paintings proved to be forgeries, Meadows promised an additional $1 million to replace the works with the real thing.

To show its appreciation for Meadows’ generosity, the SMU Board of Trustees renamed the SMU School of Arts to the SMU Meadows School of the Arts in 1969. Since then, the Meadows Museum has thrived and grown into one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside of Spain. And the Meadows School of the Arts has become intrinsic to the city of Dallas in boosting the city’s national reputation as a hub for culture and the arts.

Although Algur Meadows died tragically in a car accident in 1978, his legacy has continued and grown through The Meadows Foundation’s generous funding support that has totaled more than $100 million to SMU, primarily in support of the arts school and museum. Grants have funded a state-of-the-art, stand-alone museum that opened in 2001 on the south side of campus: further acquisitions of works of art; and numerous programs and initiatives that educate Meadows students.

The Foundation continued its funding support for another project that will get underway in 2019 – a major facilities upgrade to the Owen Arts Center, home of the Meadows School (see article on page 21).

“We simply couldn’t be who we are or function at the level we do without the ongoing support of The Meadows Foundation,” says Sam Holland, the Algur H. Meadows Dean of the Meadows School. “Operational funds they have given us through the grants date back to the beginning of the relationship with SMU, but the two latest grants – $45 million in 2015 and $33 million in 2006 – have given us an edge for excellence.” The funds have enabled the school to recruit top faculty, focus on upgrading and enhancing the student experience and begin a major facilities upgrade, “The Meadows Foundation has catapulted us to the next level,” Holland adds.

As president and CEO of the Meadows Foundation, Linda Perryman Evans has helped continue the legacy of her great-uncle Algur. “Education was one of my great-uncle’s top priorities,” she said. “He believed everyone deserved a good education, and he wanted to build the finest school of the arts in the country. At SMU, he was able to find the support and opportunity to make his dream a reality. For us, art, education, SMU and Dallas just go together.”

Renowned actresses and SMU alumni Kathy Bates (left) and Regina Taylor came together in May to conduct a podcast interview in the lobby of the Owen Arts Center as part of Meadows School of the Arts’ 50th anniversary.
Undergraduate and graduate students in the Division of Art showcase their works at Open Studios held throughout the art wing of Owen Arts Center. The event features works in a variety of media, including painting, drawing, sculpture and ceramics.

**A SCHOOL APART FROM THE REST**

Today, the Meadows School comprises the usual area of studies in art and art history, dance, film and media arts, music and theatre, but also arts management and arts entrepreneurship, advertising, corporate communication and public affairs, journalism and creative computation.

Holland says that housing the visual, performing and communications arts under one roof sets the Meadows School apart from other universities. In addition, Meadows students can earn degrees in SMU’s other schools, double majoring in fields as disparate as dance and mechanical engineering, art and creative computation, which blends computer science, engineering and art with coursework from both Meadows and the SMU Lyle School of Engineering, or any combination a student can imagine.

“We deliver a conservatory-quality education, but encourage students to create unique combinations of majors; we allow and champion collaboration and flexibility across disciplines. In the long run, the odds of a successful career and having an impact with one’s life are enhanced through exposure to multiple disciplines and experiences."

Through its arts entrepreneurship program, all Meadows students learn techniques to make a living in the arts. The school was one of the first in the nation to embed arts entrepreneurship training into its curriculum.

Beloved Professor Emeritus of Theatre Charley Helfert, who taught at SMU from 1970-2013, said that “What makes a student a Meadows student is they have something to say even before they get here. Foster that along the way, giving them the resources to develop that.”

**MEADOWS ARTS GO HAND IN HAND WITH DALLAS**

SMU’s presence in Dallas and North Texas – the fourth-largest media market in the country – and its close proximity to
the downtown Dallas Arts District enable students to take advantage of economic and cultural opportunities that come with being in such a dynamic marketplace.

“Being bold, Meadows picks up and feeds off of the can-do spirit of Dallas,” Holland says. “The idea of making a living with one’s art while in school goes back a long way here.Instrumental music students are frequently called to substitute with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra when it has a temporary vacancy. They learn how to freelance within the community.”

Meadows’ deep relationships with the Big Five cultural arts organizations in Dallas – the Dallas Symphony, Dallas Opera, Dallas Theater Center, Dallas Museum of Art and the Nasher Sculpture Center – mean students often obtain jobs with the organizations after they graduate. There are eight members of the DSO who are alumni, which is unusual “because students don’t often graduate and get a job with the symphony in the same city where they went to school,” Holland says. But that should come as no surprise, as many instrumental faculty members at Meadows are DSO principals.

Meadows faculty and students often work on productions with various Dallas-area theater companies, including the artistic team at the Tony Award-winning Dallas Theater Center, a relationship that goes back several decades. Most recently, Meadows’ students and faculty worked alongside the DTC professionals as actors, in lighting and design on the co-productions of Frankenstein (2018) and The Wolves (2019).

In the program for The Wolves, DTC Enloe/Rose Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty wrote about the fortunate partnership with SMU Meadows. “By bringing the intellectual resources of a great university beyond the walls of its institution and into the city in which it is located, and by providing its students with real-world professional opportunities while still in school, SMU is not only providing a world-class education for its students, but also making Dallas a better place for all of its citizens.”
MAKING ARTS RELEVANT TO THE WORLD

Meadows also has committed to sustainable community engagement. Launched in 2015, SMU’s Ignite/Arts Dallas initiative brought together Meadows’ various outreach efforts that combined the arts and social engagement in the community under the leadership of Clyde Valentín. “Our vision for Ignite/Arts Dallas is to engage in deep relationships with the broader Dallas community and to introduce students to the arts’ critical role in social engagement,” he said.

The initiative includes the school’s Meadows Prize, originally the Meadows Award, established in the early 1980s with Meadows Foundation support to honor artists at the pinnacle of their careers. Launched in 2009, the Meadows Prize is an international arts residency that brings emerging, pioneering artists to SMU for several weeks to interact with Meadows students and collaborating arts organizations and to leave a lasting legacy in Dallas.

One of the most highly visible community partnerships began in 2015, when the Meadows Prize was awarded to Lear deBessonet, director of The Public Theater’s Public Works program in New York City, to spearhead a new co-production of The Tempest between the Meadows School and the Dallas Theater Center in spring 2017. As a result, Public Works Dallas was established at the DTC, which creates participatory theater through partnerships with local community centers that support low-income and underserved populations in Dallas. In 2018, Public Works staged The Winter’s Tale, and in August it staged As You Like It. Through Meadows’ Public Works Fellows, about 15 SMU students served on teaching staffs at the community centers, on crews, as community liaisons for each performance.

“The arts have the ability to shape the narrative of progress for Dallas and other urban centers across the country,” Valentín adds.
ARTS FOR A DIGITAL WORLD

Another differentiating factor for the Meadows School today is its connection to big data and the arts through SMU DataArts, created last year through the merger of SMU’s National Center for Arts Research with DataArts of Philadelphia. SMU DataArts provides useful and accessible data to show arts organizations where their strengths, challenges and opportunities lie and to help ensure long-term stability of the arts sector as a whole. Through the focus on big data, Holland says, Meadows is aligning itself with the University’s emphasis on high-performance computing and digital humanities.

The most cutting-edge curriculum in Meadows today is creative computation, “in which art meets code and code meets art. You never know what it can lead to: visual or musical arts or to designing rides for Universal Studios,” Holland adds. There are plans to infuse computation at a more basic level into the Art program, and Meadows is expecting to become the future primary academic home of SMU Guildhall.

Today, Al Meadows may not recognize many of the state-of-the-art and technologically oriented programs that the school comprises, but he would value the same heart, soul and passion that infuse his namesake.

At the Meadows at the Winspear performance in April, which kicked off the 50th anniversary and featured SMU dance and music students, President R. Gerald Turner said Meadows’ legacy was “the beginning of a profound partnership with SMU that would ultimately impact the imaginations of tens of thousands of students for their lives. Thanks to the continuing generosity of the Meadows family and Foundation, SMU is making Algur H. Meadows’ dream a reality. The result: The eyes of the world are on SMU and the incredible talent that we provide each year.”

SMU theatre students often have the opportunity to perform with professional actors from the Dallas area, such as the collaboration on The Wolves with the Dallas Theater Center in April.
KICKING OFF MEADOWS' NEXT 50 YEARS
The Meadows Dance Ensemble presents the world premiere of Takehiro Ueyama’s Heroes, set to John Adams’ The Chairman Dances, at Meadows at the Winspear.
Every time I step on the SMU campus, I feel like I’m becoming a better person and learning to become a better servant. I want to be the best leader I can be.

Stephanie Bohan
Stephanie Bohan finds a moment of peace in the sanctuary of Grace United Methodist Church, located across the street from the Agape Clinic, where she serves as the chief executive officer.
pharmacy pantry and the lab. Under her direction, the clinic has expanded its reach and services offered and performed over 17,000 patient visits last year. Just over 7,600 of the visits were for specialty services such as dental care, dermatology, allergies and asthma, ophthalmology, pediatrics and counseling. The clinic now delivers $8 million in care to patients on a $915,000 annual budget and is on pace this year to reach 18,000 patient visits, thanks to volunteers, donations and partnerships with educational institutions. Students and professors from the nearby Texas A&M College of Dentistry provide dental services.

Agape also partners with Labcorp, which has donated $2.4 million in lab services, and with Sam’s Club on Northwest Highway, where more than 8,000 prescriptions were filled last year under the family discount awarded to the clinic.

Bohan also has been adept at soliciting gifts of equipment from numerous local philanthropies, such as a recently donated hydraulic exam table from the Rotary Club of Park Cities.

In addition, the patients themselves, many who live just “a hair above” the poverty line, donated more than $300,000 to the medical services last year, although no one is turned away if they are unable to pay. “One of the greatest strengths of Agape Clinic is the investment our patients make toward their care,” Bohan says. “Because of their investment in their care, they are more likely to stay on top of their medical issues, reducing the chance that they will need to seek services in the emergency room, the most expensive medical care available.”

Calling herself a “cradle Catholic” who is now a United Methodist, Bohan graduated from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., where she earned her degree in philosophy. Bohan credits both
“Serving others was a priority in our home,” she says. Her mother was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels, and she and her brother would help bring in the milk or hot tray to the seniors they visited. “I can remember my mother sharing that not everyone was blessed with a big family, and since we had love and time to spare, it was our duty to help those less fortunate. These beliefs were reinforced by the Catholic schools I attended, as well as my sincere belief that if much has been given to you, much is expected.”

**Witness To Daily Miracles**

Bohan says she was fearful when she started the job at Agape – fearful there wouldn’t be enough money, fearful they’d have to turn patients away, fearful they couldn’t serve everyone, fearful of failure. None of those fears have materialized.

Today Agape Clinic is thriving with support from a staff of 14 and over 100 medical volunteers, its services in high demand from an ever-expanding, underserved and economically challenged population. Patients are made to feel welcome – the waiting area is warm and friendly, with a children’s play area tucked in a corner and murals painted on the walls featuring beloved pets of employees, including Bohan’s own Tubby, a chubby Chihuahua mix who is the clinic mascot.

The foyer, named in honor of Rev. William Jennings “Bill” Bryan, a Perkins Theology associate dean who died from pancreatic cancer in 2017, fills up quickly when the doors open at 7:30 a.m. weekdays; Saturday mornings begin at 7 a.m. Evening clinics are scheduled based on the availability of the volunteer medical provider. There is a six-week waiting list for appointments.

But Bohan is just as interested in the whole person who visits the clinic, and often posts on the Agape Facebook page reminders to get routine checkups during Men’s Health Month, to get out and walk daily, and to apply bug repellant and sunscreen now that it’s summer. Twice monthly the clinic offers in partnership with the North Texas Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry free provisions of fresh fruits and vegetables, because many of Agape’s clients live in Dallas’ food deserts – neighborhoods with little access to grocery stores and healthy produce.

Their efforts haven’t gone unnoticed. Recently Agape Clinic was named a finalist for Organization of the Year in the nonprofit $500,000-$999,000 category in D CEO’s 2019 Nonprofit and Corporate Citizenship Awards program, and honored in August. D CEO stated: “We are proud to honor professionals and organizations in the nonprofit world that continue to make a positive impact on the community, often under difficult financial constraints.”

Bohan remains humble but faithful in committing to her job “until the day I die! There have been a million miracles that I have been privileged to witness – people giving of their time, lives saved, families kept whole because they didn’t lose a mom, a dad or a child because they received good medical care,” she says.

“I discovered I was naturally good at this. I realized that nonprofit management was about doing good work and communicating it effectively. When you do that, you’ll never have to ask anyone for money. People naturally want to give and support you. Just stay focused on doing good work for the right reason.”

Stephanie Bohan
When George Killebrew ‘85 spoke to the soon-to-be graduates assembled in McFarlin Auditorium for the Baccalaureate Service on May 17, he made sure they grasped the full extent of their achievement.

“This weekend, you’re about to join something extraordinary,” he said. “The SMU alumni community is 130,000 strong and spans the entire globe. So, no matter where you go, you’ll always have family.”

The Alumni Board chair wasted no time in laying out a precise plan to help them make the most of their future as Mustang alumni:

**Stay connected.**
**Stay informed.**
**Stay invested.**

His three points may seem easy enough to remember, but they’re also a cinch to lose track of in the post-graduation shuffle of joining the workforce, moving to new cities and becoming adept at adulting.

While mastering the young alum shuffle, Killebrew made it a priority to stay close to SMU. A native of Honolulu, Hawaii, he earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University. His career has taken him from positions with Professional Sports Publications and Learfield Communications to serving as the associate executive director of the Mustang Club, which provides SMU Athletics with resources to support student-athletes. That job opened the door to professional sports and the Dallas Mavericks basketball team, where he serves as executive vice president.

“I’ve always been involved with SMU — first as a student, then as a young alum — moving into my career,” Killebrew says. Taking on the role of Alumni Board chair “was a logical next step. When they asked me, I was happy to do it.”

“I think what’s been really cool that SMU has done in recent years is help graduates realize how important it is to stay connected to SMU, because there’s such a great network. It doesn’t really matter what school you came out of, whether it’s business or theology or the arts. SMU has this incredible network of connected alumni in all different fields.”

— George Killebrew

**HOW DO YOU WANT TO STAY ENGAGED?**

Mustangs can find plenty of ways to stay involved, “however they’d like to continue their SMU experience, and that’s the key — to be a resource for alums,” Killebrew said.

Here are a few steps for getting started:

- Update your contact information so you’ll receive information about events in your area and the SMU Update monthly e-newsletter.
- Join your local alumni chapter to network with fellow Mustangs and learn about volunteer opportunities in your area.
- One of the most meaningful ways to support the future success of SMU is by making an annual gift. Every gift matters, he says.

“It doesn’t really matter about the amount — it can be five dollars a month, or something like that,” he says. “Collectively, it adds up.”

By investing comparatively small increments of time and money, alumni become more deeply engaged — which propels Killebrew forward in his two-year term as chair of the SMU Alumni Board.

“I think what’s been really cool that SMU has done in recent years is help graduates realize how important it is to stay connected to SMU, because there’s such a great network,” Killebrew says. “It doesn’t really matter what school you came out of, whether it’s business or theology or the arts, SMU has this incredible network of connected alumni in all different fields.”

**Stay connected. Stay informed. Stay invested.** You can find details at smu.edu.alumni.
Lila B. Cockrell published *Love Deeper than a River* (Trinity University Press). Cockrell was the first woman mayor of San Antonio, serving four terms during 1975-91. She received an SMU Distinguished Alumni Award in 1967 and an honorary doctor of humane letters degree in 1981. She holds a bachelor’s degree from SMU and was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Robert Rector, Sr. celebrated his 100th birthday in March. Before retirement, Rector enjoyed a long career as a mechanical engineer for Sandia Labs, Lockheed Martin and Hughes Aircraft. He lives in Bend, Ore.

Richard W. Hemingway was recognized for excellence in law education in *Marquis Who’s Who*. He is the Eugene Kuntz Professor Emeritus at the University of Oklahoma, where he taught energy law.

Tom W. Luce (J.D. ’66) spearheads Texas 2036, a nonprofit organization working on some of the state’s biggest challenges.

The statewide network deploys data, research and expertise to shape a blueprint for sustaining Texas as the best place to live and do business through its bicentennial in 2036 and beyond. Learn more at Texas2036.org.

Sharon Ley Listzow performed “Battle Hymn of the Republic” on the piano at the funeral of former President George H.W. Bush in Houston. Melvin E. West received an honorary degree from the University of Missouri in recognition of his humanitarian work.

Susan Sturdivant joined the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Appraisal Education, which raises funds and awards scholarships for professional development in the field of personal property appraisal. The Foundation also publishes the *Journal of Advanced Appraisal Studies*.

Bobby B. Lyle received the 2019 Linz Award, an annual honor given by the *Dallas Morning News*, Communities Foundation of Texas and The Dallas Foundation in recognition of civic or humanitarian service. Lyle has served as an SMU trustee for 30 years and has endowed four academic chairs at SMU, supporting outstanding faculty in cyber security, engineering innovation, engineering entrepreneurship and leadership and global enterprise. Elizabeth Payne retired from the University of Mississippi last year after 21 years as a professor of history and the founding director of the university’s McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College. She is the author of *Mississippi Women: Their Lives and Times* and numerous other books. In 2017 she received a lifetime service award from the Southern Association for Women Historians. Thomas R. Williams (‘69) published *Glory on the Hilltop: the Story of 1947 SMU Football*. The book was inspired by his 46-year friendship with the late Joe Redwine Patterson ’48, SMU’s head cheerleader during the 1947 football season.

Jerry C. Alexander (J.D. ’72) was elected chair of the State Bar of Texas. He is president of Passman and Jones, P.C. in Dallas, where he has worked since 1972. Former First Lady Laura Bush was a speaker at the University of Arkansas Distinguished Lecture Series. Bush leads the Women’s Initiative at the George W. Bush Institute.

Richard W. and Heidi Sorflaten Stewart celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 23. They live in McLean, Va.
Robert Brandenberger (M.M. ’77) was inducted into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. William J. Neilon retired as municipal court judge in Duncanville, Tx., where he served for more than 36 years.

Scott Cantrell, freelance classical music critic of The Dallas Morning News, chaired the jury for the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for Music, at Columbia University in New York. In May, he was the keynote speaker for the University of North Texas School of Music undergraduate commencement ceremony. Richard A. Jones (Ph.D. ’72) was inducted into the Arkansas Academy of Electrical Engineering.

Jake Schrum retired from Emory and Henry College in Emory, Va., where he was president since 2014. Steve Waters was elected president of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, an invitation-only premier organization of real estate attorneys who demonstrate high character and collegiality and give back to their profession and communities.

Thomas DeBlack retired as professor emeritus of history from Arkansas Tech University after 23 years. Gary French was inducted into the 2019 Waxahachie Fine Arts Hall of Fame. Donald Godwin received the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year award from the University of North Carolina Wilmington – his undergraduate alma mater. Godwin holds a law degree from SMU and is chairman and CEO of law firm Godwin Bowman PC. In 2004 he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Dedman Law. Nancy Jurik (M.A. ’75), professor of justice and social inquiry at Arizona State University in Tempe, received a Fulbright Research Scholar Award. She will be a visiting scholar at the Czech Academy of Sciences.

Lewis Shiner published Outside the Gates of Eden (Subterranean Press, 2019). Lucinda Smith departs the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands after 16 years at the firm.

Reunion chairs: Bryan Dunklin and Pamela Godkin Weaver
Save the date: Friday, November 8
James Brickman (M.B.A. ’76), CEO of Green Brick Partners, was included in D CEO magazine’s Dallas 500, a special section celebrating the region’s most influential business leaders. See his abbreviated profile in the February edition of D Magazine.

Steven J. Lindley and Bruce Robson received 2019 Cox Distinguished Alumni Awards. Lindley is the managing member and president of Johnson and Lindley, LLC and the managing partner of PinHigh Capital Partners, LLC. Robson is managing partner and CEO of Robvest, a private investment partnership. Lindley and Robson, a former SMU swimmer, were among the lead donors to SMU’s Robson & Lindley Aquatics Center, the new home to Mustang swimming and diving, which opened in 2017.

Gerald B. Alley received the Chancellor’s Medal from the University of Arkansas to honor his entrepreneurial spirit, volunteerism and dedication to higher education. Alley, who holds an M.B.A. degree from SMU, received the Cox School Distinguished Alumni Award in 2013 and the Black Alumni History Maker Award – given by the SMU Black Alumni – in 2014. Colleen Townsley Brinkmann retired as chief philanthropy officer from the North Texas Food Bank and published Moonshot Leadership: Catalyzing an Enduring Nonprofit Brand (Against All Odds). Heather Ryan Kelley’s retrospective exhibition, Quiddity, was held at the Acadiana Center for the Arts in Lafayette, Louisiana, and included a selection of her paintings, intaglio prints and mixed media works.

David B. Dillon has been elected to the board of directors of Hallmark Cards, Inc. Dillon is the former CEO and chairman of The Kroger Co. Durant “Dan” Rizzie exhibited his Bird on a Blade art collection at the Barry Whistler Gallery in Dallas. The mixed media collection follows the publication of a book by the same title, which was created in collaboration with Grammy Award-winning musician Rosanne Cash.

Martha McGuire has been named as one of Chicago’s 50 Most Notable Women in Commercial Banking by Crain’s Chicago Business. She is the executive vice president of the Commercial Banking/Large Corporate & Lease Finance Group for First Bank Chicago. Dr. Rev. Charles E. Reese received the MLK Drum Major Award, presented by Collin County, Texas, during its Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Appreciation Day. Reese is the founder and president of the Collin County Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the minister in residence at New Hope Baptist Church in Dallas.

David Cassidy was named to the 2019 edition of Louisiana Super Lawyers and listed in Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in Louisiana. Cassidy specializes in tax law from the Baton Rouge office. G. Michael Gruber (J.D. ’81), a partner at Dorsey and Whitney law firm, has been named to The Catholic Foundation Board of Trustees in Dallas. Barbara J. Houser was named president-elect for the American Bankruptcy Institute. The Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge in the Northern District of Texas, she received the Dedman Law
Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011. *William Rodman “Rod” MacIlvaine III* became a Birkman Certified coach through Birkman International in Houston. In addition to serving for 24 years as the senior pastor of Grace Community Church of Bartlesville, Okla., he has joined forces with the executive coaching firm Lead Self Lead Others in Tulsa. Rod and *Cindy Funkhouser MacIlvaine* celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in April by leading a group on a tour of Israel and Jordan. *Braiden Rex-Johnson* has launched two websites: SeattleWaterfrontWebcam.com, which streams live video images of Seattle’s Elliott Bay, the Alaskan Way Viaduct and the Seattle Great Wheel; and BraidenBlossoms.com, featuring her floral photography and flower-related blog.

**2019**

**Distinguished Alumni Award**

**SCOTT J. MCLEAN ’78**

Throughout his 40-year banking career, Scott J. McLean has prioritized service to the community alongside his everyday responsibilities. President and COO of Zions Bancorporation, a leading U.S. financial services company, McLean also serves on the company’s board of directors and as chairman of its Texas subsidiary, Amegy Bank, where he previously served as CEO. McLean was previously with JP Morgan Chase for 23 years, where he served as president in Dallas and Houston and as chairman in El Paso.

Since earning a B.B.A. from the Cox School of Business, McLean has maintained close ties to his alma mater. He serves on the SMU Board of Trustees and is a past president of the SMU Alumni Board. During The Second Century Campaign, he served as co-chair of the Houston Campaign Steering Committee and co-chair of the Texas Campaign Steering Committee, and was a co-chair of the Texas Standing Committee for A Time to Lead. In 2014, he was honored with a Cox Distinguished Alumni Award.

The United Way of Greater Houston named McLean a trustee emeritus after more than two decades of distinguished leadership, including chairman of the board, chairman of the $80 million Houston Community Campaign and chairman of the CEO Search Committee. In 2013, he served as chairman of the $7.5 million 2-1-1 Texas/United Way HELPLINE Capital Campaign supporting the largest 2-1-1 HELPLINE in the country. In 2017, he led the United Way’s efforts to raise $50 million in Hurricane Harvey relief funds. In appreciation of his years of leadership, he received the United Way Volunteer of the Year Award and the City of Houston proclaimed “Scott McLean Day.”

McLean is a member of the board of CenterPoint Energy, a Fortune 500 utility company, and Houston’s Memorial Hermann Healthcare System. He and his wife, Anna, chaired a record-breaking $3.5 million fundraiser supporting Memorial Hermann’s trauma care programs in 2018. His civic involvement also has included serving on other philanthropic and healthcare boards in Dallas, El Paso and Houston, including serving as chairman of the $40 million Dallas United Way Community Campaign.

Dallas philanthropist serves on the boards of SMU’s John Tower Center for Political Studies, the SMU Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility and the Dallas Museum of Art, among other leadership roles with numerous other civic and charity groups.

**Reunion chairs: Gregory S. Cannon, Carol Duncan and Jeanette Johnson**

**Save the date: Friday, November 8**

**Donna Bullock Sherman** led a master-class at Tyler Junior College. Her acting credits include the Broadway production of *Ragtime*, the movie *Air Force One* and numerous TV roles. *Mary A. Collins* received the Pioneer Award from the Dallas Producers Association, which recognizes industry longevity, impact and contributions. She is the owner and president of Dallas-based Mary Collins Agency Inc. *Marshall Gandy* joined the United States Securities and Exchange Commission as co-national associate director of the investment adviser/investment company examination program in the Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations. He is responsible for overseeing lawyers, accountants, and examiners responsible for inspections of SEC-registered investment advisers and investment companies. *Nancy Strauss Halbreich* received the 2019 J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award from SMU’s Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility. The award recognizes exemplary service and ethical leadership in the community. The United Way of Greater Houston named McLean a trustee emeritus after more than two decades of distinguished leadership, including chairman of the board, chairman of the $80 million Houston Community Campaign and chairman of the CEO Search Committee. In 2013, he served as chairman of the $7.5 million 2-1-1 Texas/United Way HELPLINE Capital Campaign supporting the largest 2-1-1 HELPLINE in the country. In 2017, he led the United Way’s efforts to raise $50 million in Hurricane Harvey relief funds. In appreciation of his years of leadership, he received the United Way Volunteer of the Year Award and the City of Houston proclaimed “Scott McLean Day.”

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**Jess Moore** has been named a fellow in the College of the State Bar of Texas, an honorary society of the best trained
2019

Distinguished Alumni Award

MARTIN “MARTY” L. FLANAGAN ’82

Marty Flanagan leads Invesco Ltd., one of the world’s leading investment management companies, entrusted with managing $1.2 trillion in assets for a broad range of clients. He has served as president and CEO of the company since 2005, and also serves as a member of the board of directors as well as vice chair and trustee of Invesco Funds.

A certified public accountant, Flanagan is also a CFA charterholder and serves on the board of governors of the Investment Company Institute. Prior to joining Invesco, Flanagan held leadership positions at Franklin Resources, Inc., and Templeton, Galbraith & Hansberger Ltd.

Flanagan earned a B.B.A. from the Cox School of Business and a B.A. in Ibero American Civilization from Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences. He was honored with a Cox Distinguished Alumni Award in 2005 and a Cox Outstanding Young Alumni Award in 1999. His engagement with SMU includes service on the Cox Executive Board. During The Second Century Campaign, he served on the Cox Campaign Steering Committee and the Atlanta Campaign Steering Committee. He and his wife, Jennifer, also have been active in the Parent Leadership Council, 2008–12.

The Flanagans’ wide-ranging support of SMU includes a gift to establish the Jennifer and Marty Flanagan Endowed Master of Arts/Master of Business Administration (M.A./M.B.A.) Scholarship, the new Indoor Performance Center, the Mustang Excellence Fund for SMU Football and the Albert W. Niemi Endowed Center for Economic Growth and Leadership Development Fund.

Their efforts on behalf of the University extend to their home city of Atlanta, where the Flanagans hosted their 10th holiday party for the SMU Atlanta chapter in December.

In his community, Flanagan serves on the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce board and executive committee and is chair of Engage Ventures, an independent venture fund and platform established to strengthen collaboration between leading corporations and top entrepreneurs. He also serves on the boards of the Atlanta Committee for Progress, Commerce Club and Woodruff Arts Center.

Music Guide and nominated for “Best Neo Classical Album 2018” by One World Music Radio. John Culberson joined law firm Clark Hill as a member of its government and public affairs practice. The former U.S. Congressman serves the Washington, D.C., and Houston offices. Richard Lafitte joined Tolleson Wealth Management as president of Tolleson Private Bank. He is responsible for leading the strategic growth of the firm’s private banking services and relationships and will serve as a liaison between the bank and the community.

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Dr. Martina Bebin Bickley received the Woman of Impact Award by Yellowhammer Multimedia, which recognizes women who shape and propel Alabama. Bebin is a researcher specializing in tuberous sclerosis complex and the genetics of epilepsy at the University of Alabama at Birmingham Comprehensive Neuroscience Center and the Civitan International Research Center. She also holds an appointment in UAB’s Department of Pediatrics. At SMU she was an All-American on the women’s swimming team and received the Silver Anniversary Letterman Mustang Award in 2016.

John Creuzot was elected Dallas County District Attorney. Creuzot, a retired state district judge, was the solo practitioner at the Creuzot Law Firm PLLC. In 2000, he received the Dedman Law Distinguished Alumni Award.

Clark A. Hiddleston authored the political satire Moon Jump, A Global Warming Fantasy.

Kevin Kehoe is founder and CEO of St. Louis-based The Aspire Software Company, which recently raised $35 million in growth capital with San Francisco-based MainSail Partners.

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Antonio Garza, a 2007 SMU Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and current member of the SMU Board of Trustees, was selected for the National Association attorneys in Texas. His firm, Jess Moore Law, PLLC, specializes in real estate and business formation for entrepreneurs, family businesses, and small to mid-sized companies.

Karen Biehl released a piano album, Starlight Dreams, which was named “Best Solo Piano Album 2018” by New Age
of Corporate Directors (NACD) 2019 Directorship 100 and named “Best of the Boardroom” by Hispanic Executive magazine. Garza serves as counsel in the Mexico City office of White and Case LLP, and is a director and advisor to both publicly and privately held companies. **Beth Mooney**, CEO of KeyCorp, has been elected to the board of trustees of The Conference Board, a nonprofit membership and research association. Mooney received the Cox Distinguished Alumni Award in 2008. **James M. Sellers** joined Intalytics as senior director of marketing services overseeing customer analytics and marketing solutions.

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**Mark Clark** retired as director of the United States Defense Intelligence Agency’s Missile and Space Intelligence Center, where he has served since 1988. He holds a master’s degree in electrical engineering from SMU. **Carol L. Foster** joined the board of Hercules Capital, Inc., bringing more than 30 years of investment banking and operational financial management experience. She is the COO and CFO at SharesPost, Inc. **Jeff Hawn** is the president and CEO of Quest software company, which has been named to the list of 2019 Most Valuable Companies to Watch by CIO Bulletin. **Brent De Noble** joined industrial real estate firm Lee & Associates of Illinois, in Chicago, as its senior vice president.

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**Dane Patrick** was promoted to shareholder at the San Antonio-based law firm Langley and Banack. Inc. **W. Scott Sutter** joined Investa Management as its vice president of project management in charge of managing new and existing special projects that will generate long-term business growth. **Derrick Lee Weeden** performed in Shakespeare’s Richard III in Washington, D.C. His other recent performances include Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner in Minneapolis and Fences in Santa Maria, Calif.

**88**

**Betsy Campbell** published Practice Theory in Action: Empirical Studies of Interaction in Innovation and Entrepreneurship. She leads an initiative at Penn State University focused on the democratization of innovative entrepreneurship. **Sandeep Chennakeshu** joined the Austin-based semiconductor firm Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) as its executive vice president of computing and graphics. **Marie DiSante**, employment litigation attorney and managing partner of Carothers, DiSante and Frederenberger LLP, in Orange County, California, received Corporate Counsel’s National Women in Law Awards Lifetime Achievement. **Kal Grant** (LL.M. ’00) joined law firm Jackson Walker as partner in its Dallas office. She specializes in wealth planning, probate and trust practice. **Ashlee Hunt Kleinert** received the Maura Women Helping Women Award from the Texas Women’s Foundation, which recognizes leaders who have positively impacted the lives of women and girls in Texas. Kleinert is co-founder of The Kleinert Foundation and Executives in Action and founder of Ruthies Rolling Café. She shared the inspiration for all three ventures in the June issue of D CEO magazine. **Michael A. Mendoza** joined the City of Dallas as its chief of economic development and neighborhood services. Dr. **Amy Moreland Wilson** has been appointed chief medical officer of Baylor University Medical Center. A member of BUMC since 1993, she most recently served as president of the medical staff for two years and chief of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation since 2005.

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**Janet Bawcom** joined Ingredion, Inc. as its general counsel and corporate secretary responsible for legal and regulatory affairs. **Lee Mulcahy**’s paintings were among the Collective People’s Choice exhibition in Snowmass, Colo., in March. More of his work is exhibited in Aspen’s Bauhaus celebration. Mulcahy’s family charity, Africa Water Wells, drilled two water wells and installed computer labs with used laptops donated by the Dallas and Aspen communities at schools outside of Sokit, Kenya. Learn more at africawaterwells.org. **Danielle Petters** has been named executive director of elementary schools in the Dallas ISD Woodrow Wilson feeder pattern.
Rafael Anchia received the 2019 Distinguished Hispanic Alumni Award from SMU, given by the Hispanic Alumni of SMU Board to honor professional and personal accomplishments that have made a tangible impact on Dallas. Anchia is serving his seventh term in the Texas House of Representatives. He is also the co-founder and managing director of Civitas Capital Group and is of counsel at Haynes and Boone, LLP. David Dreyer (M.F.A. ’92), a Dallas artist, exhibited his work at the Valley House Gallery in March. Kevin L. Weiss was elected to the Board of Trustees at Cornell College. He is the vice president and chief human resources officer at L-3 Communications.

Scott Beardsley has been elected to the National Association of Municipal Advisors Board. He is the executive managing director of investment banking firm Crews and Associates in Little Rock, Ark.

Shayne Doty joined The Payley Center for Media as its senior vice president for development. His responsibilities include developing and implementing comprehensive fundraising strategies. Paul Frederiksen is the assistant city manager for the City of Duncanville in Texas.

Laura Galt, co-founder and CEO of ATx Random Productions, produced the The Prom, a Broadway musical nominated for six Tony awards. Jana Wickham Paul (J.D. ’94) joined the Dallas office of Connatser Family Law, LLC. Matt Pond joined Houston-based Corrosion Resistant Alloys LP as chief financial officer.

Dr. John E. Friend II has been named chief medical officer of Druggability Technologies USA. He brings more than 16 years of leadership experience to the firm. Previously he was the chief medical officer of Collectar Biosciences, Inc.

Blankenbuehler received a Kennedy Center Honor for his choreography for the Tony- and Pulitzer-Prize winning Hamilton. His other professional credits include Bandstand, Cats and Annie. Laura Fisher joined LBI Media as senior vice president of sales for its EstrellaTV Network, based in New York. Jim Keene was inducted into the American Bandmasters Association at its 83rd annual convention. Keene is a colonel in the United States Army and leads the U.S. Army Field Band in Washington, D.C.

Kevin L. Weiss was elected to the Board of Trustees at Cornell College. He is the vice president and chief human resources officer at L-3 Communications in New York.

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Julie Fort, partner at North Texas-based Messer, Fort & McDonald, has announced the firm has merged with Akers & Akers, LLC, in Austin. Both firms specialize in local government and serve municipalities throughout Texas. Jessica Gallivan was confirmed by the Virgin Islands Legislature to serve a 6-year term as Judge of the Superior Court – Family Court Division. Chadi B. Ghaith has re-released his debut fantasy novel Mimadamos: The Eden of Choice. Daniel Kahl has been appointed deputy director of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations. Kahl has worked at the SEC for more than 17 years, serving as its chief counsel since 2016. Elena Koutros McFann serves as regional CEO for UnitedHealthcare Medicare and Retirement. Alice Curry has been promoted to vice president of Customer Care at American Airlines where she leads a team of 7,500 global professionals focused on providing a world-class customer experience. Melinda Jones, founder and creative director of Read Between The Lines gift and stationery store, opened her second location at Legacy West in Plano, Texas. Learn more at readbetweenthelines.com. Brannon Kidd became principal of Weatherford High School in Weatherford, Texas. Shawn Prestridge (M.S.E.E. ’00, M.S. ’04) was promoted to U.S. Field Application Engineer (FAE) team leader for IAR Systems, a supplier of future-proof software tools and services for embedded development. Victoria Snee was named chief marketing officer for Highland Park Village. Clay Watson joined the Board of the Austin Hatcher Foundation for Pediatric Cancer. He is the dealer principal and president of Mountain View Ford Lincoln. Melinda Sutton Noss joined SMU as associate vice president and dean of students. Previously she held the same position at the University of Mississippi since 2014. Nancy Claire Pittman joined Phillips Theological Seminary as its president. Shawn Storer was named to the Top 50 Leaders in Learning and Development, Americas, 2019, by Corinium Global Intelligence. Weldon Tisdale, Sr. joined the Gateway Foundation in Tulsa, Okla., as CEO. The organization serves adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
Kenneth Ino published Fix It: How History, Sports, and Education Can Inform Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Today. He is the senior director of diversity and inclusion for Capital One. Wendy Li was sworn in as judge of the New York City Civil Court in January after her election to the office last fall. Li was a corporate lawyer for 18 years, focusing on banking, administrative proceedings and capital markets. She attended SMU as a Helmut Sohnen Scholar and received an L.L.M. degree.

Richard C. Lyons has published The DNA of Democracy, a collection of essays that chronicles democratic societies.

Majed Nachawati, Dallas trial attorney and co-founding partner of Fears Nachawati Law Firm, has been appointed a three-year term on the State Bar of Texas Committee. He also was selected to the 2019 list of the Best Lawyers in Dallas by D Magazine for outstanding work in mass tort litigation. Toni Bradley Smith has been appointed lead municipal judge for the city of Muskogee, Okla. Jamal Story choreographed the aerial duet What to Say? Notes on Echo and Narcissus for the Dallas Black Dance Theatre’s 42nd season finale.

Courtney Caldwell was named a 2019 Cox Outstanding Young Alumni. She is the co-founder, with her husband, Dr. Tye Caldwell, and COO of beauty-tech start-up ShearShare, an on-demand salon and barbershop space rental app. Steven Gridley (aka Leegrid Stevens) and Erin Treadway premiered the science-fiction odyssey Spaceman at the Wild Project theatre in New York. The husband-and-wife team run the Loading Dock Theatre production company, and their past shows include The Dudleys, Ms. Julie, Asian Equities and The Twelfth Labor. Cynthia Maldonado joined the San Antonio office of Cordell and Cordell, the nation’s largest domestic litigation firm focusing on representing men in family law cases, as a senior litigation attorney.

Kyle Vaughn published Lightning Paths: 75 Poetry Writing Exercises, geared toward writers or teachers in 7th-12th grades or post-secondary classrooms. Learn more at kylevaughn.org.

Jean M. Birch joined the Jack in the Box, Inc. board of directors. The veteran executive administrator also serves as board chair of Papa Murphy’s Holdings, Inc., and is a director of Forrester Research. She received the Cox Distinguished Alumni Award in 2007.

Ryan Dalton was named a 2019 Cox Outstanding Young Alumni. He is executive vice president and chief financial officer of Parsley Energy, Inc. Reginald Gray (M.A. ’05) joined the Dallas Housing Authority Board, which provides housing solutions for low-income families and individuals. He is an economics coordinator and professor at Mountain View College. Jeffrey Green was appointed associate provost for graduate programs at Houston Baptist University. He also is associate professor of philosophy at HBU, director of the Institute of Christiananity and Scholarship and dean of the Graduate School. Kenneth Mosley starred in the Tony-winning musical Kinky Boots, playing the role of Lola during the show’s 2019 national tour. Previously he played the role of Berry Gordy during the national tour of Motown The Musical. He also has appeared in several television roles. Avi Saxena joined Discovery, Inc. as chief technology officer of direct-to-consumer. In the newly created role, he oversees technology systems and global platforms powering the company’s direct-to-consumer products in the U.S.

Mark Thompson, senior vice president of tourism for VisitDallas, has been named 2018-19 chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International (HSMAI) Americas. Bringing 25 years of experience in tourism and hospitality, with specialties in marketing strategy.

Learn more about the national tradition of sheep farming in the Northland tour charming Christchurch, where the English influence is on view in Victorian architecture; and discover the rich Maori culture and natural wonders that make New Zealand unique.

Learn more about these educational opportunities for alumni:
ONLINE: smu.edu/alumnitravel EMAIL: alumni@smu.edu PHONE: SMU Office of Alumni Relations and Engagement 214-768-2586 or 1-888-327-3755
and agency management, Thompson also has been named among the Top 25 Most Extraordinary Minds in Sales and Marketing by HSMAI. William Trice has been named executive artistic director of the Arkansas Repertory Theatre, with combined responsibilities for management, budgeting and artistic vision. Based in New York since 2010, Trice has produced nearly 30 productions on Broadway, the West End and National Tours. He is a three-time ‘Tony Award winner for All The Way, Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf and Porgy and Bess and has received five additional Tony nominations. Prior to his producing career, Trice served as a business analyst at McKinsey & Company, artistic administration associate at The Metropolitan Opera and a strategic growth associate at D.E. Shaw & Company. Michael J. Wallis was promoted to managing director of consulting at Accenture.

02

Dr. Michael Gehring published a spiritual autobiography, As the Broken White Lines Become One. He is an adjunct professor of pastoral theology at Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, N.C., and senior pastor of Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville, N.C. Jenni Tauzel (M.S. ’03, J.D. ’06) joined the law firm Barnes and Thornburg, LLP as a litigator. Ted Metcalf joined Compass Health Brands as western regional director. He will manage sales teams in 13 states. Joe Regan joined the trial and appellate litigation practice at the Fort Worth, Texas office of Jackson Walker. Brandy Treadway serves as general counsel at J.C. Penney and leads 26 attorneys and 10 paralegals.

03

Benjamin Harmer became new magistrate for the Fifth Judicial District for Twin Falls County in Idaho. He was the deputy prosecuting attorney in Ada County, Idaho. Rogers Healy leads the Dallas-based Rogers Healy Companies, which ranked ninth on Fort Worth Magazine’s list of the 30 fastest-growing companies in the city. Laura Hayes has been promoted to partner at the Dallas office of KoonsFuller Family Law, where she has practiced since 2012. In 2018 Hayes was recognized as an Elite Lawyer by Elite Lawyer, and included among the Best Lawyers in America in family law according to Best Lawyers, LLC. Kevin Impelman joined Dallas-based consulting firm Hollweg Assessment Partners, LLC, as vice president of consulting and research development. Impelman, a licensed psychologist, previously was at IBM Talent Management Solutions as the executive consulting leader. Ana I. Rodriguez received the Young Leader Award from the Texas Women’s Foundation. The award recognizes women under 40 who are forging a path to success for other women. Rodriguez is the director of the SMU Cox Latino Leadership Initiative.

04

Reunion Chairs: Guy Bellaver and Liz Tanner

Save the date: Friday, November 8, 2019

Kristin Cormier Ammon launched KCA Design, a brand focusing on calligraphy, illustrations and custom hand-painted designs on luxury handbags and accessories. Learn more at KCADesignco.com. Katharine Battaia Clark joined the Dallas-based law firm Hedrick Kring, PLLC as partner. She specializes in bankruptcy and insolvency litigation. Ashley Darryl, founder and owner of New York-based Ashley Darryl Interiors, was touted in Barron’s as one of five emerging designers to watch. Ryan J. Dickinson joined Camber Spine Technologies, LLC, in King of Prussia, Pa., as its vice president of sales and new business development. His responsibilities include sales team leadership, revenue growth and marketing and business strategy. Matthew Grunert joined the law firm of Braceywell LLP Houston office as a partner in the employee benefits and executive compensation group. Previously he was a partner at Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP in Houston. Scott I. Harrison has been named to the advisory board of the National Alliance for Audition Support, a national initiative to increase diversity in American orchestras. Harrison is the executive director of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. Dr. Jacob Hayward was named principal of Siloam Springs Middle School in Siloam Springs, Ark. Beth St. Lawrence Kerley joined the nonprofit Concordance Academy of Leadership in St. Louis as senior vice president, director of marketing, communications and development. She was the director of communications and giving for Build-A-Bear. Jeff Moen joined Noble Research Institute in Ardmore, Okla., as general counsel. Mikhail Orlov’s company, Weby Corp., founded in 2010, was ranked No. 2,076 on the Inc. 5,000 list of America’s fastest-growing companies, making it the fifth consecutive year to be recognized. Jason L. Signor, CEO and partner of Caddis, a national real estate development, management and investment firm focused on healthcare real estate, is a finalist for the Entrepreneur of the Year 2019 Award in the Southwest Region. Yasmeen Tadia’s booming business continues with the recent addition of Mod-Sweets – The Artisanal Collection, created exclusively for Neiman Marcus, to her flagship Fluffpop gourmet cotton candy and Hotpoppin gourmet popcorn. Dan Tobin was promoted to partner of Dallas-based law firm SettlePou, where he has worked since 2004. Brent Walker is an attorney with AldousWalker law firm in Dallas, which has been named a finalist for the National Law Journal’s 2019 Elite Trial Lawyers awards.

05

Tamara Baggett joined law firm Barnes and Thornburg LLP in Dallas as a complex commercial litigator. Previously she was a partner at Kilpatrick Townsend and Stockton LLP. Heather Vance Devers was featured in the May edition of DFW Child magazine as a female professional juggling motherhood, social pressure and workforce re-entry. Previously she worked as senior stylist at NeimanMarcus.com and style director at J.C. Penney. Spencer
Diebel (J.D. ’10) joined the Dallas office of law firm Kane Russell Coleman Logan PC. Zach Gordon (J.D. ’09), an attorney at Taft Stettinius and Hollister LLP, was included on the Indiana Rising Stars 2019 list, which recognizes the top up-and-coming attorneys in the state. Johnny Guerry has been appointed a partner at the Dallas-based hedge fund Blue Lion Capital. Previously he was the managing partner and portfolio manager at MHC Mutual Conversion Fund. Caroline McClinton was appointed associate municipal court judge in Bastrop, Texas. Melissa Mehall, co-owner of naturally gluten-free Mel’s Monster Cookies, expanded availability of the company’s line of dry mixes to include Walmart.

Carolyn Perritt completed a second master’s degree – master of science in information architecture and knowledge management – at Kent State University in December 2018. Lauren Pugliese was elected second vice president of investments – real estate for Ameritas Investment Partners.

Elizabeth Youngblood joined Catholic Health Initiatives as division senior vice president and COO in its Texas division. Previously she was the CEO of the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s adult hospitals.

Alana K. Ackels (J.D. ’09), partner with the law firm Bell Nunnally and Martin LLP, has been named to the 2019 Texas Rising Stars list published by Thomson Reuters. She recently was named to the Dallas Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 list. Cassian Bernard was named Sales Director of the Year by the Dallas Builders Association at its 40th Annual McSAM Awards. He has worked for M/I Homes since 2016. Christopher Domig directed the world premiere of Chris Cragin-Day’s new play The Rare Biosphere. Domig is artistic director of Sea Dog Theater and an actor and director in New York City. Angela Games became principal of Dripping Springs High School in Dripping Springs, Texas, where she has served as assistant principal since 2016. She also is the instructional supervisor for the departments of English, Science and Languages other than English (LOTE).

Melissa Iyer Julian was appointed to the Maricopa County Superior Court by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey. Julian is a partner at Burch and Cracchiolo, P.A. specializing in complex commercial litigation. Christine Leatherberry, an attorney with Connatser Family Law in Dallas, has become board certified in family law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Ingrid Lestrud joined The Arlington Chorale in Arlington, Va., as its artistic director and conductor. Previously she was the director of Choirs for the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, and the assistant conductor for Symphony Nova in Boston.

Michael O’Keefe held two Dallas exhibitions of his sculpture, drawings and paintings: Recognitions at the Valley House Gallery and Enduring in the Posture of Love at the Contemporary Gallery at the Museum of Biblical Art. Chris D. Price joined the board of WithMe, Inc., an online cloud-based central ordering platform for small business owners. Christina Stephenson joined the Dallas office of law firm Crowe and Dunlevy as a director.

David Denson was named vice president of Red Tail Productions. He oversees Prehistoric Aquarium Adventure, Dinosaur Zoo Live and Double Dare Live, and develops new business for the company. Colton Grubb opened a second location of Grubstak, his restaurant concept that features fresh comfort food stacked to create a customized meal, in Chandler, Ariz. The first Grubstak was featured on the Food Network Show Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives. Jonathan Harder (M.S. ’08) joined the Silicon Valley office of Dickinson Wright as of counsel. Anoosa Husain traveled with the Islamic Medical Association of North America on a mission trip to the Middle East. Husain, a physician assistant who holds psychology and biology degrees from SMU, and her colleagues treated refugees near the Syrian border.

Marilyn Kibler-Colón was named among the top 2019 Women in Technology by the Dallas Business Journal. She is the board president of DFWMATW (Alliance of Technology and Women) and vice president of sales marketing and business development at Gateway Architects, LLC. Andrew Tash is the senior technical leader for enterprise networks, business and fleet support IT for the U.S. Navy, and among the Naval Information Warfare Center’s team to handle the technical information warfare needs of the Navy. Brent Turman (J.D. ’12), senior associate at Bell Nunnally and Martin LLP, has been named to the 2019 Texas Rising Stars list published by Thomson Reuters.

Travis L. Ballenger joined The Old Globe theatre in San Diego as associate artistic director. Ryan R. Bauerle, an attorney with GoransonBain Ausley, has become board certified in family law. Matthew Busby received the Young Engineer of the Year award from the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. He is a project manager for civil engineering firm Lockwood, Andrews and Newnam, Inc. Hayley B. Collins, a family attorney with GoransonBain Ausley, has become board certified in family law. Collins, who joined GoransonBain in 2013, was named to D magazine Best Lawyers Under 40 in 2018 and to Super Lawyers Rising Stars from 2015-18. Amanda Cottrell joined the Dallas office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter and Hampton LLP as a partner in its business trial practice group.

Austin Freeman received the Ronald H. Brown Standards Leadership Award, given by the U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day Planning Committee to recognize leadership in the important role of standardization. Freeman, who has a 38-year career in the petroleum industry, is the technical authority for well equipment at BP. Daniel Gomez, attorney and partner at law firm Connor and Winters, was featured as a Man Making a Difference in Tulsa, in Tulsa Lifestyle magazine.

Stephen E. Kaiser performed in The
Outré Theatre Company’s production of Next Fall. He also has performed in shows at the Miami Theater Center, MadCat Theatre Company and Broward Stage Door Theatre. Kevin Lavelle, founder of Dallas-based men’s dress shirt retailer Mizzen+Main, stepped down as CEO of the company to join the leadership team of The Seminar Network. He will retain his position as Mizzen+Main chairman of the board. Greg Martino co-founded Cottage City Oysters, an oyster farm in Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts. Adam Nunnallee was elected as member to the national law firm Dykema Gossett PLLC. He specializes in finance litigation, as well as state and federal reporting compliance matters. Raqketa Williams joined the Atlanta office of law firm Swift, Currie, McGhee and Hiers LLP as associate.

Reunion Chairs: CLAIRE McCORMACK HOGAN AND BEN MANTHEY
Save the date: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019
Sierra Anderson represented the U.S. as member of the senior women’s team during the International Ski Mountaineering Federation World Championships in Villars, Switzerland. Anderson’s team placed 11th in the pairs competition and seventh in the relay. She is a former SMU track and cross country team captain. Benjamin Brown was named to the board of the American Society of Pharmacovigilance. Andrew Dowdy, partner at Bell Nunnally and Martin LLP, has been named to the 2019 Texas Rising Stars list published by Thomson Reuters. Sloane Hankins joined the Memphis-based law firm Baker Donelson as a member of its tax group. Mike Steele directed The Killer for the Trap Door Theatre, in Chicago. Steele’s other directing credits include Sad Happy Sucker, The Fever, The Glass Inward and Tourist Trap.

Wesley Anderson was named to Arkansas Business’ 40 under 40 list of rising stars. Anderson is the senior vice president of
2019

Emerging Leader Award

WHITNEY WOLFE HERD ’11

A tech disruptor with a mission to empower women, Whitney Wolfe Herd is the founder and CEO of Bumble. Bumble features three modes – Bumble Date, Bumble BFF for networking – that put women in the driver’s seat when making social or business connections. Wolfe Herd’s strategic vision has guided the company’s growth to more than 65 million users in 150 countries and changed the way people connect online and off.

While Wolfe Herd was earning a B.A. in international studies at SMU’s Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, her global outlook and enterprising spirit took root. As an SMU student, she launched two efforts in response to world problems she cared about – a clothing line to bring attention to fair trade and a line of sustainable grocery bags to benefit the Oceans Future Project after the BP 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill. She now serves on the Dedman College Executive Board.

Before Bumble, Wolfe Herd co-founded the Tinder dating app and served as its vice president of marketing from 2012-14. She used that experience to form Bumble’s mission as a women-first platform grounded in positive online behavior. Since its release in December 2014, women have initiated contact with other users – made the first move – more than 1 billion times on Bumble.

The young entrepreneur’s achievements have earned major accolades. Wolfe Herd has been included twice in the Forbes’ 30 under 30 issue and has been named to the TIME 100 in 2018, Time magazine’s list of the world’s most influential people, and Business Insider’s 30 Most Important Women Under 30 in Tech. She serves on the board of Imagine Entertainment, the film and television production company founded by Brian Grazer and Ron Howard.

Dallas Solo Fest. Robert Quick, founder and CEO of Western Addition Restaurant Group, has opened Il Bracco in Dallas. Dan Smith was promoted to partner at the Dallas office of law firm Fish and Richardson.

11

Petya Kertikova joined Bulgaria ON AIR as news anchor. She previously worked at BITElevision in Chicago. Jonathan Norton has been named the playwright-in-residence by the Dallas Theater Center. The award-winning playwright’s newest work, Penny Candy, draws on his childhood experiences in the Pleasant Grove neighborhood. The play won rave reviews for its slice-of-life authenticity. Melissa Massey (M.L.A ’14) received a 2018–19 Outstanding Special Education Teacher of the Year award by the National Association of Special Education Teachers. She also was nominated for the Lake Highlands Junior High Star Teacher of the Year. Aldrick Robinson presented a program about overcoming adversity to students at Clift Elementary School in Waxahachie, Texas. Robinson played football at SMU and had an eight-year career in the NFL. Judd Rogers joined Summit Electric Supply as vice president of supplier and product strategy. He is responsible for enhancing supplier relationships.

12

Christopher Brown, co-founder of the Zabo cryptocurrency banking application, secured a $1.15 million seed investment. He presented the technology at the Venture Summit West innovation conference in San Francisco. Clayton Brown launched Austin software company, Reconasense, an AI-based platform for physical security professionals. Brent Heckaday, senior associate at Bell Nunnally and Martin LLP, has been named to the 2019 Texas Rising Stars list published by Thomson Reuters. Kellen Lewis, the director of college advising at The Oakridge School, has been named...
advancement co-chair for the Texas Association for College Admission Counseling (TACAC) Executive Board. Elisabeth Rain Kincaid joined Nashotah House Theological Seminary as assistant professor of ethics and moral theology. Aneesha Kudtarkar directed the National Asian American Theatre Company production of Veil Widow Conspiracy, in New York City. John Mahalik was elected chair of the North Texas Tollway Authority board. He is the COO of construction firm Phoenix GC Services, LLC. Alana Newhook Matthews serves as the executive vice president, business operations and general counsel for the NHL Dallas Stars. Chris Mavros joined Ware Malcomb as regional director in charge of growth and management of the design firm’s new Dallas office. Colin Moynahan launched Twenty Fifty Capital, a fee-only comprehensive financial planning practice. Beethoven Oden performed with the Virginia Stage Company in Toni Morrisson’s The Bluest Eye. In New York, he also recently performed in August Wilson’s Two Trains Running. Ana-Maria Ramos began serving her first term as Texas State Representative for District 102. Kristi Torkildson published a first novel, Letters from the Dead.

13

Brooke Awtry joined private equity firm Montage Partners, in Scottsdale, Ariz., as marketing and public relations manager. Cole Beasley joined the NFL Buffalo Bills roster. The wide receiver agreed to a four-year contract beginning with the 2019 season. Parker Borelli is the third generation to work in his family’s custom home building firm Borelli Construction of Naples. The Naples, Fla.-based company celebrates 40 years in business. Tom Corcoran IV married Francie Fisher at West End United Methodist Church in Nashville. Larry Duggins published Rooted in grace: Essays on Dialogue Without Division. Julian Fletcher participated in the International Olympic Committee Athlete Forum, held in Lausanne, Switzerland. Fletcher was a standout Mustang swimmer at SMU, and represented Bermuda during the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. Benjamin J. Fortner joined Lancaster, Pa.-based RKL LLP as the firm’s research and development practice leader. Kevin Grenier and his wife, Jessica Grenier ’14, opened an Anytime Fitness franchise in Glenwood Springs, Colo. The 24/7 workout facility is the first fitness business for the former student-athletes. Alexandra Guio, an assistant district attorney in Dallas County, received the Wm. Reece Smith Jr. National Outstanding Young Lawyer Award from the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. The annual award recognizes professional excellence, service to the profession, bar and community, and advancement of ethics and professional responsibility. Daniela C. Gutierrez has joined the Dallas law office of Weil, Gotshal and Manges as an associate counsel in the banking and finance practice. John D. Hasselberger joined the Virginia-based Winchester Group Law Firm as partner, specializing in criminal defense, domestic relations, worker’s compensation and general civil litigation. Shkëlqim Kelmendi is executive director of Housing Connector in Seattle, a new organization focused on the city’s homelessness crisis. Amie Kromis has been promoted to national director of vendor diversity at Skanska USA, a construction and development firm. She is working on her M.B.A. from Duke University. Kimberly Marcaccini assumed ownership of the Plano, Texas-based micro roaster Coffee del Rey, which specializes in single-origin coffees and specialty blends. She holds a bachelor’s degree in markets and culture from SMU, has been featured in D Magazine, Community Impact. Plano Magazine and Voyage Dallas as a local business owner with heart. A portion of her sales goes toward supporting the North Texas Food Bank and various international charities. Donta McGilvery received the 2019 Martin Luther King Jr. Servant-Leadership Award and the 2018-19 Spirit of Service Scholar, both from Arizona State University, where he pursues a Ph.D. in theater for youth. Rebecca Marin Shepherd was featured in the March edition of D Magazine, where she describes her path to launching her Dallas-based event production and design firm The Wildflowers. Natalie Owens was promoted to director of business development at BSI Financial Services, where she has worked since 2016. Maggie Srygley recently performed in the Arkansas news website Talk Business & Politics as a rising leader. She is the marketing officer at First National Bank of NWA, in Fort Smith, Ark., where she began as a teller in 2014 before receiving two promotions to her current position. Lee Steinfeld pivoted from attorney to entertainer as host of YouTube channel Leonhart, started in 2014 to focus on retro games while raising awareness for charitable organizations. The channel’s popularity exploded after a nostalgic rediscovery of his old Pokémon card collection that spurred more than 400,000 Pokémon-loving viewers to subscribe. Also, he has worked as a voice actor for the anime company Funimation Entertainment. Brandon Warman won the Tech Trends in Retail pitch competition hosted by RevTech Ventures with Cooklist, a digital pantry app he co-founded in 2018. The startup was selected for the Target + Techstars mentorship program hosted by retailer Target. The app helps users find recipes using food they already have on hand. If they find a recipe but lack some ingredients, the needed groceries can be ordered immediately at Target.com for same-day delivery. Cooklist is available on Apple or Google. Jasmine White-Killins performed a solo in the Dallas Black Dance Theatre’s production of Execution of a Sentiment. This is her fourth season with DBDT, where she is the director of the organization’s senior performing ensemble. She is also an instructor at DBDT and at the Texas Ballet Theater.

14

Reunion Chairs: LAUREN LYNGSTAD, RAMON TRESPALCOS AND GEORGE J. UTKOV
Save the date: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019
Virginia Boswell and Overton Thompson ’14 were married at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas. Hunter Higgins and Derek Vucich ’15 are
celebrating the one-year anniversary of their freight brokerage company Modalia Freight. The company has now relocated from Derek’s home office to offices in downtown Raleigh, North Carolina, and has 10 employees. Caroline Morehead opened a Drybar hair salon franchise in her hometown of St. Louis, Mo. Amanda Patterson joined the Siegried Group as a senior associate. The CPA firm is based in Denver. Eleanor Rosler Putnam ’14, ’15 and Richard Putnam were married on May 25 in Columbus, Ohio. Teddy Warren performed in Roald Dahl’s Matilda The Musical at the First Stage Theatre in Milwaukee, Wis.

### 15

Ahmed A. Altawyan has published the book International Commercial Arbitration in Saudi Arabia. Erin Hedrick married Parker Smitherman on November 10, 2018, in Dallas, where they now reside. Bridesmaids included SMU classmates Cathrine Kingry ’13, Morgan Baden Maxwell and Jessie Hart Webb ’12. Groomsmen included SMU classmates Caio Formenti, Adam Groshard and Pedro Rodriguez-Garcia ’14. Erin is a brand manager for The Richards Group and Parker is an assistant editor for Republic Editorial. Grant Magers has co-founded Hempori, Inc., a company that specializes in CBD oil health products. The company recently partnered with AppYea, Inc., which will assist with capital funding opportunities. Jacob Nice directed the off-Broadway play Everybody, a 2018 Pulitzer Prize finalist, at the Stage West Theatre in Fort Worth, Texas. Nice’s other directing projects in Dallas and New York include the plays We’re Gonna Die, Warm Soda, Hypochondria and The Burial at Thebes. He also is a composer, performer and sound designer. Erica Robbie joined the Aspen Daily News as arts and entertainment editor.

### 16

Jonathan Allen received a law degree from Boston University. He holds a Master’s in Theological Studies from SMU. Carlton Cornelius joined the Dallas office of MedProperties Realty Advisors, LLC as an associate asset manager of portfolio investments. Darren Biggle was profiled in a Pepperdine University’s Graphic feature about defining success for artists. Biggle is an accomplished scenic designer whose portfolio includes on and off-Broadway productions. See his story at Pepperdine-Graphic.com. Justin Lemieux premiered For the Time Being, written by British poet W.H. Auden, as a one-night solo performance last year at the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture. Lemieux, who holds an M.F.A. degree from SMU, is a writer, monologist and actor. He received a Best Emerging Actor award from the United Solo Festival in New York for his original play Warm Soda. Molly O’Connor, owner of lifestyle blog Molly on the Move, which focuses on positive and uplifting content for young women, was profiled in the February edition of D Magazine for her bootstrap approach to finding her own voice in the social media sphere. Maria José Padgett launched her ZINDAGI line of traditional Indian earrings while earning her Bachelor of Arts degree at SMU. Recently she was featured in D Magazine as a rising entrepreneur expanding her line of jewelry and clothing. Casey Quinn joined Delta Dental Plans Association as a government relations associate. Tiffany Sudarma and Josh Prenot were married in March on the Indonesian island of Bali. Sudarma, who holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from SMU, was on the women’s swim team. Her husband was a silver medalist on the 2016 U.S. Olympic swim team.

### 17

Ciera Cole was honored as one of CRN’s 2019 Women of the Channel. She is the COO of The 20, an exclusive business development group for Managed Service Providers. Madison Marchetti launched the San Diego-based Madison Ave. Media. The digital marketing and social media agency specializes in marketing for small business owners and medical professionals. Jeremiah Onifadé’s debut art show A Prelude to the Beautiful Unknown was held at Soar Creative in the Dallas Design District. Onifadé, who holds an M.S. degree from SMU, works as a cybersecurity engineer at Verizon by day. After hours, the artist creates paintings and sculpture to express childhood experiences in his native Kaduna, Nigeria. The story of his journey from Nigeria to Dallas is featured in the Dallas Observer. Helen Rieger received a third-place award in the 2019 U.S. Cannes Young Lions competition. She is a junior art director at Arnold Boston. Sofia Rosell won a first-place Hispanic Young Lion award as a junior art director at DAVID Miami in 2018. Connor Saeli is among the cast of bachelors appearing on the ABC television program The Bachelor. Saeli holds a bachelor’s degree in finance from SMU, and is an investment analyst at Goldman Sachs in Dallas.

### 18

Daniel Atkinson joined the Dallas office of McGinnis Lochridge as an associate in the firm’s employment, labor and employee benefits practice group. Hollis Byram was promoted to account executive at CRC, New York City-based PR and digital marketing agency. She has assisted with media relations and influencer marketing, as well as marketing and business development initiatives. Ann Stehling married Eric Krohngold in February. She holds a J.D. degree from SMU, and is an attorney at Vinson and Elkins in Austin.

### 19

Scott Heaviside joined Transwestern Development Co. as development manager responsible for supporting the real estate development firm’s West Coast projects. Heaviside holds an M.B.A. from SMU.
In Memoriam

The following deaths were reported to SMU between 11/28/18 and 3/31/19:

'00 (Kidd Key College) Dorothy Phillips Robertson 5/17/2014

37 Lillian Standridge Watts 10/6/2014

35 Eva Colson de Chazal 1/18/2013

40 Evelyn Lankford Koster 11/18/2017

Marguerite Summers McClure 1/27/2019

41 Margaret Harvin Freeman 4/23/2019

Doris Wulfemeyer Giese 2/9/2013

Muriel Lignoski Mooney 1/12/2015

Mehla Mae Ford Panek 3/17/2013

42 Dr. Bryce G. Hughett 10/11/2016

43 Dan A. English, Jr. 11/25/2018

Georgia Davis Lamp ton 2/20/2019

Gracey Fox Stair 11/28/2018

44 Jean Lewis Barrar 10/2/2017

Thomas S. Carter, Jr. 3/12/2019

Rev. Leo W. Davidson, Jr. 3/12/2013

Ada Funk Terry 10/7/2015

45 Louise Latham 2/12/2018

Jane Manton Marshall 5/29/2019

Bettie Freeman Mohney 5/31/2019

Miriam Gutman Star 1/4/2019

46 LaTrelle Dunaway Ustastion 2/28/2019

Martha Barrow Wright 1/30/2019

47 Helen Alexander Breach 3/31/2019

David B. Ford 3/25/2019

Laura E. Hash 1/19/2019

John G. Hunter 2/9/2019

Patricia Goar LaGrange 3/2/2019

Charles D. Leathers 4/26/2019

Mildred Watkin McCollough 11/29/2018

Rev. Dr. Robert B. Weaver 5/8/2019

48 James H. Adams 3/20/2014

Francine Burris Blackwell 8/31/2018

Richard D. Cole 2/10/2019

Dr. Ralph H. Crocker, Jr. 4/14/2019

Minnette Pelphey Goodson 5/29/2015

Russel E. Hankins 1/30/2019

G. R. Howard 5/8/2019

William R. Lloyd, Jr. 2/1/2019

James F. Magee 3/17/2019

Dwight H. McNally, Jr. 5/9/2019

John G. McGee 12/28/2014

Douglas M. Parnell, Jr. 1/30/2019

Harley E. Ryan 5/18/2019

Phillip S. Sizer, Sr. 12/26/2015

Beverly DeShong Ratcliffe 3/3/2019

Dr. Joseph J. Stanovsky 12/28/2014

Constance Dolph Strow 3/22/2019

Nancy Anne Brooks Titus 4/25/2019

James R. Wallis 4/29/2019

49 Morris S. Caraway 1/14/2019

Robert D. Compton 4/25/2019

Mariana Gillespie Daffron 4/3/2019

John C. Freeman 1/9/2019

Robert C. Fults 1/16/2019

Nora Spencer Gilbert 4/3/2014

Hanse M. Hamilton, Jr. 2/28/2019

Charles D. Hill 1/23/2019

Theodore L. Hoffmann 1/12/2019

Dorothy Chase Jones 2/26/2019

Dorothy George Lankford 4/23/2019

Julia Rallins Mahaney 3/9/2013

William C. Mills 1/27/2019

Forrest H. Muire, Jr. 1/18/2019

Lucille Hurley Parker 7/25/2015

Jack K. Patterson 1/33/2019

Marilyn Souder Perry 1/15/2019

Susanne Wilson Peterson 2/25/2019

James E. Reagan, Sr. 2/25/2019

A. D. Rose 11/15/2018

Esther P. Smith 1/32/2014

Alexander J. Statthakos 6/5/2018

50 Frank B. Burpo, Jr. 3/24/2019

Alfred J. Collom 5/8/2019

Franklin E. Cooke 11/29/2018

Fred L. Gonzales 12/2/2018

Gay C. Helm, Jr. 11/17/2018

Thomas E. Hudson 11/22/2018

Rev. John C. Johnson 5/21/2019

Rev. Timothy I. King, Jr. 4/7/2019

Paul R. Luther, Jr. 3/3/2019

Nancy Moore Marwell 2/12/2019

Lois Cooper Mayer 6/10/2018

Paul L. Moftitt 12/12/2018

Elmer R. Norris 3/5/2019

Lloyd W. Perkins 5/8/2019

Edward P. Puyau, Jr. 12/27/2018

Charles M. Schnette 2/25/2019

Ramon M. Snead 2/22/2019

Bertie Hinman Wallace 3/9/2019

51 Jameil Araya 5/11/2019

Virginia Birt Baker 1/20/2019

John R. Bradbury 1/8/2019

Dr. Clarence T. Cadenhead, Jr. 12/15/2018

Nancy God Cheney

12/13/2018

Jo Ann Zeigler Clark 12/19/2018

William C. Clyatt 2/17/2019

Dr. Wallace G. Gray, Jr. 2/3/2019

Patricia Cuny Green 1/30/2019

Helen Alexander Greenstreet 12/1/2018

Ralph M. Hall 3/7/2019

Elizabeth Bradshaw Hensarling 2/23/2019

Shirley Love Hollingsworth 2/3/2017

Mary Orning Hooke 6/11/2014

Barbara Lawes Hopper 2/4/2019

Jean Jones Kemp 1/8/2019

Edward J. Leinfelder 2/6/2019

Dr. Albert W. Martin, Jr. 1/9/2019

Robert N. Medaris 5/22/2019

William D. Patterson 5/12/2019

Floyd A. Scheinman 3/30/2018

Patricia Goforth Shoemaker 4/28/2019

Dr. Lycurgus M. Starkey, Jr. 5/8/2019

52 James W. Arnold 1/19/2019

Martha Elliott Aufrecht 2/11/2019

Carolyn Ceirco 5/27/2018

Barbara Jarvis

Engstrom 12/14/2018

Herschel V. Forester 12/31/2018

Curtis Musgrove, Jr. 1/11/2013

Peter S. Vatsures 4/15/2019

Rev. George W. Wattenbarger 12/29/2015

53 Van R. Cammack 2/13/2019

Betty Scott Ewan 1/5/2019

Jean Dudley Finkler 1/24/2019

Mary Ann Hutchinson Green 12/3/2018

Dr. Mary Moore Hubbard

Hosford 4/28/2019

Mary Ramsey Kemp 3/7/2019

Dr. Torbert H. Milby, Jr. 12/1/2018

Rev. Robert A. Simpson 2/9/2019

Margaret W. Sutherland 12/30/2018

Anna Sutter Symon 11/30/2018

Elbert L. Tucker 3/3/2019

Samuel N. Vilches, Jr. 2/22/2019

Betty Burdett Waller 10/3/2013

Henry D. Wells, Jr. 2/5/2019

54 Joseph C. Chenevert, Jr. 4/24/2019

Robert P. Coats 2/20/2019

D’Anne McAdams Crews 1/14/2019

Steven T. Landregan 11/25/2018

Dr. Charles D. McIntire 1/4/2019

Foster M. Poole, Jr. 3/19/2019

Dr. Chadwick F. Smith 1/7/2019

Robert R. Wallace 4/8/2019

55 Carlo A. Angelo 2/8/2019

Chester G. Ball, Jr. 1/3/2019

James A. Cribbs 3/10/2019

Rev. Paul D. Davis 5/17/2015

Alexander E. Dodge, Jr. 12/13/2018

Georgann Tims Filak 2/26/2019

Karl T. Finsterbusch 3/11/2019

Vida Carmichael Furnish 12/9/2018

Dianne Hill James 12/22/2018

George D. Johnson 4/20/2019

Mary Ambrozi Lackey 5/11/2016

Rev. Albert J. Rymph, II 2/16/2019

Harry C. Sanders, Jr. 9/8/2016

Mary Bain Stark 12/20/2018

John D. Williamson, Jr. 3/1/2019

Rex M. Winters 2/1/2019
In Memoriam


72 John E. Barger 12/20/2018 Laurie Bellman Kotiza 12/28/2015 Barbara Hudson Lane 4/7/2019 Atticus H. Thomas Jr. 2/2/2019

73 Barbara J. Bodmer 12/22/2018 Dr. William R. Chace 4/7/2019 Stanley W.
Channell 12/3/2018 William N. Hickey
2/10/2019 Dr. Thomas D. Nix, Jr.
2/12/2019 James L. Parrish 11/29/2018
David M. Petefish 12/8/2018 Mark A.
Sikkil 2/26/2019 Avis Crowe Vermilye
12/10/2018

74 James K. Avant 6/8/2018 Anne A.
Blanco 6/23/2017 Robert T. Cathey
5/8/2019 Margaret Brinton Jarmon
William N. Linburg 4/30/2019 Stephen
S. Mims 1/10/2019 Kay Wright Parsons
John W. Plattner 12/31/2018 Judy
Allen Reeves 12/4/2015 James A.
12/8/2017

75 John F. Cole, Jr. 5/5/2019 Carolyn
P. Lowrey 12/8/2018 Janet Miller
McClulloch 10/24/2018 Deborah Hay
Spradley 5/9/2019

76 Thomas G. Van Amburgh 12/15/2018
Clarence L. Dennard, II 5/19/2019
Cynthia A. Love 3/11/2018 Ruth
Richardson Pendergrass 1/1/2019
Gloria Hoffman Snyder 12/21/2018
Virginia Whitsett Steele 3/28/2018
Douglas J. Willingham 3/11/2019
Sharon A. Young 2/2/2019

77 David J. Anderson 5/8/2019 Anne
L. Londere 2/3/2019 Nancy Walton
Norwood 1/20/2019

78 Scott M. Clark 5/10/2019 Josephine
Davis Hammond 4/3/2019 Patricia
Glover Love 3/30/2019 Marilyn
Stasaklev King 12/11/2018 Denver G.
McCarty 1/23/2019 John W. McKay
4/20/2019 Marshall R. Roeniker
12/23/2018 Richard D. VanLandingham
3/4/2019

79 Rev. Ihsan N. Ardhuerumly 1/30/2019
Paula L. Becker 12/5/2018 Mark A.
Herndon 3/6/2019 Rev. Dr. Lee W.
Turner, Jr. 4/1/2019 Ronald W. Weaver
3/17/2019

81 Robert E. Holmes, Jr. 4/12/2019
Donalda Gerneth Weeks 1/17/2019
Sandra Bailey Wilgus 1/30/2019

82 Dr. Michael F. Ehman 3/27/2019

David L. Kerr, Jr. 11/29/2018 Regina S.
Ramirez 1/30/2019

83 Jesse W. Bennett 1/15/2019 Nancy
Kliever Dunlap 1/21/2019 Jane A.
Glover-McInnis 12/28/2018 Barbara
Muncaster Short 2/20/2019

84 Alan M. Gerlach, Jr. 2/20/2019
Catherine Clifton Hansen 4/6/2019
Peggy L. Smith 4/17/2019 Carl L.
Wolsberger 12/1/2018

85 William T. Forehand 11/11/2015 Jeffrey
S. May 11/10/2018

86 Thomas E. Kemp, Jr. 3/27/2019 Tony
M. McGatlin 4/3/2019 Edwin E.
Mortell, III 3/8/2019 Jacqueline J.
Oden-Brunson 1/6/2019 Dr. Steven
S. Perry 1/14/2019 Patrick D. West
2/26/2019

87 Anna Lukemeyer 12/5/2018 Dr. Larry
Smith 12/8/2018

88 Kent S. Graustein 12/31/2018

89 Patrick J. Mulligan 5/1/2019 Giles G.
Perkins 12/2/2018

90 George T. Hicks 11/25/2018 Rev. David
T. Howeth 12/24/2018

91 Raquel Colvin Dixon 5/28/2019
Melinda Gist Lorenz 10/17/2017

92 Dr. George R. Collina 3/19/2015

93 JoAnne M. Dunagan 2/19/2019 Dr.
James D. Key, Sr. 12/30/2018 Daryl M.
Wansink 12/9/2018

94 Andrea W. Barnes 1/31/2019 Billie J.
Tate 12/28/2018 Bowman A. Urech
3/6/2019

95 Jared G. House 2/23/2019

96 Henry K. Brown, Jr. 3/12/2019 Charles
E. Ferguson, IV 5/16/2019 Benjamin
H. Stephens 1/8/2019 Fr. Peter O.
Tammeaur 4/11/2019

98 Steven W. Crabtree 1/2/2019

00 Rev. Walter M. Wilkie 1/31/2019

02 Dr. Patrick S. Carmack 1/23/2018
Mohammed S. Khaleel 4/1/2019

03 Wayne A. James 1/29/2019 Steven F.
Owens 2/8/2019

06 Lauren A. Cook 3/11/2019 Tracy
Choate Menees 2/10/2019

08 Helen McClure Bush 4/1/2019

11 Alison Terry Humann 3/18/2019

13 Trevor V. Evans 3/1/2018 Keith W.

Fowler 2/26/2019 Christopher G.
Laserinko 5/19/2019

14 Daniel L. Trombley 5/5/2019

15 Jennifer L. Turner 5/16/2019

18 Rachel D. Escamilla 3/11/2019

SMU Community

Rev. Dr. Bert Scott Affleck, director of the Intern Program and professor of church administration at Perkins School of Theology, 1983-2002, 3/13/19.

Keith Fowler, accountant, Financial Accounting Department, 2/26/19.

Michael Edward Geisler II, SMU sophomore, history and pre-business, 3/31/19.


Randall F. Hendrickson, graduate student, online Data Science Program, Lyle School of Engineering, 1/27/19.


Barbara Jean Sanders, former staff member, 1980-2005, 4/9/19.

Lillian Frances Strange, former staff member, 1986-2005, 4/19/19.


Robert “Bob” L. Zollars ’72, Lyle School of Engineering Executive Board and Campaign Steering Committee for SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign, 4/20/19.
Paying It Forward: Making An SMU Education Possible

Jennifer Burr Altabef ’78, ’81, chair of the Meadows School of the Arts Executive Board, attended SMU on partial scholarships and student loans. After earning a B.A. in journalism and a J.D. degree, she spent 28 years as a successful employment law attorney in Dallas. On November 7, she will receive SMU’s Distinguished Alumni Award. She shares her passion for her alma mater with SMU Magazine.

Q: What is it about Meadows School of the Arts that has inspired you to invest your time and resources?

Meadows School of the Arts has always been one of the leading arts schools in the country. It also offers such a vast variety of programs – from music therapy to public affairs and communications and everything in between. I am most inspired, though, by the spirit of entrepreneurship that is steeped into all of SMU, and particularly the arts school. The school stays in front of technology and trends, and includes majors, such as creative computation, that combine art, communications, engineering and technology. At Meadows School, students are taught to be entrepreneurs, so that they can not only excel at their chosen field, but make a living at it as well.

Q: How has your SMU journalism and legal education enabled you to achieve success in your career?

In journalism, I had to learn to observe a situation closely, assess it quickly, ask the right questions with persistence and communicate the information clearly. I also learned to edit my work and the work of others with a lot of speed and accuracy. All of those things helped me tremendously in my legal education and in the 28 years I practiced law.

Law school, of course, was a really transformative experience. I had to learn to write persuasively, and to spot a myriad of issues hiding in the types of legal problems clients present. I specialized in employment law in my practice, which is at once a technical field with a lot of statutes and regulations, and an intensely human field, dealing with often-conflicting stories of how people interact in a workplace. My journalism training helped me to keep asking questions until I felt like I had gotten as close to the truth as possible in a case.

Q: What does it mean to you to be receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award this November?

It is very humbling, particularly because I have already received so much from SMU. As a scholarship student, I was given the chance to attend the school of my dreams for two degrees, and I can never give enough to SMU to repay what those opportunities gave to me. In addition, so many of my personal mentors and people I admire have received this award in the past, like Harriet Miers ’67, ’70, Tom Luce ’62, ’66, Sarah Perot ’83, Linda Custard ’60, ’99 and Bess Enloe ’60. To be given the same award as they were given is unbelievable.

Q: What initiatives have been most important to you as chair of the Meadows School Executive Board?

The Meadows Scholar Program is very important to me, because it gives students with high academic achievement and high artistic or communications ability a scholarship award that will increase the likelihood that they choose SMU. I also am very proud of Ignite Arts Dallas, a unique community engagement initiative of the Meadows School that allows artists and students to bring exceptional arts experiences, like Public Works Dallas at the Dallas Theater Center, to a wide segment of our community. Finally, I am thrilled that we have begun to renovate the Owen Arts Center and that we will break ground on the new Visual Arts Wing during Homecoming weekend on November 8.

Q: What has impressed you about the SMU students you meet?

It is a good sign of progress at a university when alums of previous generations wonder if they would have been accepted to SMU today, and I am no exception. SMU students today are so bright, inquisitive and accomplish so much that it is inspiring to be around them. They also care a lot about their community – on campus and beyond. They truly are aiming to be “world changers.”

Q: Why should someone invest in an SMU education – whether through financial gifts or sending their child to the University?

I believe there is no investment as important and gratifying as investing in human potential. The money I give to SMU is very well invested, because of SMU’s wonderful combination of careful stewardship and a calibrated vision of what resources are needed to provide a world-class education. I know from my own experience the impact that giving to SMU can have, because without the financial support SMU gave to me, none of what I have been able to achieve would have been possible.

I love speaking to parents who are considering sending their child to SMU. I hope I convey to them how much SMU brings to Dallas, and vice versa. There is an ever-present optimism at SMU and in Dallas that has never waned in the 45 years I have been here. This does not mean that we are blind to the fact that much work remains, but that we are eager to keep working to make SMU and Dallas better every day.
Fall Fun For Everyone

Join the SMU community Oct. 4-6 for Family Weekend to experience student life at the University. Activities include a meet and greet with the faculty; open houses at the Meadows Museum, Dedman Center for Lifetime Sports and Dr. Bob Smith Health Center, among others; a Hilltop Welcome from President R. Gerald Turner; a fish fry; and a movie on the lawn of Dallas Hall. And that’s just Friday! On Saturday, enjoy Gameday Programming on the Mustang Mall and the Boulevard; then cheer on the Mustangs in the football game against Tulsa at Ford Stadium. For more information: smu.edu/mag19family.