

# Weekly Update | February 10, 2023

Elizabeth G. Loba, Ph.D. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dear Faculty and Staff,

## Final reminder: Judges needed - Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair

Local scientists and engineers are invited to serve as judges for the 2023 Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair (DRSEF) on **Saturday, February 18, 2023**, at Fair Park, Dallas. Judging is a half-day commitment, fulfilled entirely on Saturday, February 18. Please join us in supporting critical thinking and science education for students in our region. Click [here](#) to register.

## Road to R1/Scholarly and Creative Excellence

### SMU leaders visit Washington D.C. to advocate for SMU earmark proposals

This week, Suku Nair, Vice Provost for Research and Chief Innovation Officer, and I joined executives from Clark Hill – SMU’s federal government relations advisors – to put forward 24 proposals for funding at the federal level as a part of the U.S. Congress’ FY 24 earmark and/or appropriation process. On February 7–8, Suku and I, along with members of the Clark Hill team, met with congressional leadership from both sides of the aisle to advocate for SMU’s faculty research proposals. Thank you again to the 40+ faculty teams who participated in this year’s earmark process.

### Research and Innovation Week, March 20-25

[Research & Innovation Week](#) is SMU’s annual showcase and celebration of the outstanding research being done by SMU students and other members of our community. This year’s events will take place **March 20-25** and include a keynote talk, undergraduate and graduate poster sessions, a panel on “Graduate Education and the Future of Research in North Texas” featuring faculty at SMU and other North Texas universities, and the Master of Fine Arts Qualifying Exhibition.

Please encourage undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs who are conducting research at SMU to be a part of this exciting event by participating in the poster sessions, which will take place on **Tuesday, March 21** (undergraduate poster session) and **Wednesday, March 22** (graduate and postdoc poster session), from

Last December, SMU faculty member Xi Wang's "Ens " premiered before New York and Philadelphia audiences. A recent [KERA](#) story described Wang's musical journey - from practicing on a toy piano to becoming a composer.

### **Dallas Morning News features the West Dallas STEM school**

The West Dallas Stem School is a partnership between the Dallas Independent School District, SMU, the Toyota Foundation USA and the West Dallas Community. Now in its second year, the school was recently profiled by the [Dallas Morning News](#).

### **Reminder: SMU participating in the Sister2Sister Exchange program in summer 2023**

The Sister2Sister Exchange Program is a public-private partnership led by American University that aims to empower Pakistani female college students to overcome cultural limitations that inhibit their participation in pursuing competitive and lucrative careers.

Through this program, American University and its partner universities enable 20 young Pakistani women every year to participate in U.S. university summer undergraduate courses, in mostly Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. In summer 2023, SMU has been invited to serve as a partner university and will offer summer scholarships to two undergraduate students.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth G. Lobo, PhD

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Southern Methodist University

<https://www.smu.edu/provost>

**World Changers Shaped Here**