

**Provost and Senior**



### **Cox School of Business**

SMU Cox School of Business continued its string of great successes in terms of MBA rankings this past week. The Cox School was named number 25 in the U.S. and 44 in the world on [annual list of Top MBA programs](#), number 30 on [-25 Best Business School rankings](#), and number 26 in [-25 Best Business School rankings](#). These high rankings, [act commitment](#) to delivering positive student outcomes to each Cox MBA student.

### **Submit a Retention Alert for students of concern**

Faculty and staff can submit a Retention Alert regarding undergraduate students who they suspect may want to leave SMU. Using the Office of Student Success and Retention's reporting tool at [smu.edu/retentionalert](http://smu.edu/retentionalert), faculty, staff, parents and families can bring a specific student to the attention of specially trained student success personnel. To learn more about the tool and how to submit, refer to the [blog post](#). If you have additional questions or concerns, contact the Office of Student Success and Retention by emailing [ssr@smu.edu](mailto:ssr@smu.edu) or calling 214-768-1231.

## **Road to R1: Research and Scholarly/Creative Excellence**

### **Faculty member in the Department of Chemistry at Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences named American Chemical Society Fellow**

The [American Chemical Society](#) (ACS) has named Nicolay V. Tsarevsky, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry at Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, an [ACS Fellow](#). The ACS is

The honor given to approximately one percent of the 200,000 ACS members each year recognizes community. Specifically, Tsarevsky was recognized for contributions to synthetic polymer chemistry, particularly the synthesis of well-defined and functional polymers with controlled macromolecular architectures, and for leadership in the popularization of chemistry.

Congratulations to Professor Tsarevsky.

### **Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences professor and colleagues develop new technique to uncover compounds that could lead to next-generation antibiotics**

SMU professor Alexander Chase is paving the way for medical advancements through marine research.

Using an innovative and leading-edge technique, Small Molecule In situ Resin Capture (SMIRC), Professor Chase and his colleagues have made it possible to collect microbial natural products directly from their source in the wild without a lab culture. This is a significant step forward in discovering new compounds that could lead to next-generation antibiotics, addressing critical global health challenges such as antibiotic resistance. A recent study, published in [Nature Communications](#) by Professor Chase and researchers at the University of California San Diego and the University of California San Francisco, explains how SMIRC utilizes a specialized resin, HP-20, to capture chemicals released by marine microorganisms, enabling the exploration of previously unreachable natural compounds.

Although none of the new compounds the research team found in the waters of San Diego, CA, proved to be a path to new antibiotics, one of the compounds discovered, dubbed cabrillostatin, does show bioactivity and is being pursued as a possible new approach to cancer and heart care.

[Learn more about the study here.](#)

## Inclusive Excellence

### **Black Unity Forum (BUF) quarterly meeting**

Today, President Turner; Maria Dixon Hall, Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Advisor to the President for Cultural Intelligence; K.C. Mmeje, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs; Wes Waggoner, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management and Chief Enrollment Offi

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action plan, and I was grateful for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Academic Affairs. In addition to

both within faculty lines and academic leadership positions. BUF ways to increase diversity

## News and Noteworthy

### **SMU Continuing and Professional Education (CAPE) earns Eligible Training Provider status via Texas Workforce Commission**

SMU Continuing and Professional Education (CAPE) is now an Eligible Training Provider with the Texas Workforce Commission. Participants can utilize Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding to pay for select CAPE programs. WIOA supports training for individuals who wish to develop the occupational and job-seeking skills needed to obtain employment by funding their tuition. If you know someone looking to boost their skills and increase their likelihood of securing a position in refer them to [CAPE for more information](#).

Sincerely,



Elizabeth G. Loba, PhD  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Southern Methodist University  
<https://www.smu.edu/provost>

