

Weekly Update | September

Full Board meeting

Inclusive Excellence

Office of Diversity and Inclusion to kick off Inclusive Leadership Series September 16

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Department of Athletics are co-sponsoring the event “Kids These Days: Relating to Gen Z” as a part of their Inclusive Leadership Series. This event will feature Betsy Butterick, a coach and instructor who teaches communication effectiveness. The session will provide tools to better communicate, connect, and coach Gen Z students, student-athletes and team members.

The session will take place on Monday, September 16, from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. in the Miller Boulevard Ballroom at the Armstrong Fieldhouse. If you are interested in attending, please [register here](#).

News and Noteworthy

First installment of the 2024-2025 O'Donnell Institute Seminar Series happening next week

The 2024-2025 O'Donnell Institute Seminar Series is starting the academic year with its first event on Wednesday, September 18, in Moody Hall, Classroom 126. Light refreshments will be provided at 1:45 p.m. with the presentation to follow from 2–3 p.m.

Professor Eric Larson, from the Department of Computer Science at the Lyle School of Engineering will present on “Ubiquitous Machine Learning: Deep Data Representation for Next Generation Systems.”

Universal AI University to partner with SMU

Former executive director of the Caruth Institute for Entrepreneurship and professor at Cox School of Business, Simon Mak, has been named the founding vice chancellor of [Universal AI University](#) (UAIU) located in Karjat, India.

UAIU focuses on producing students who are either AI developers or AI power users in the fields of technology, design, social and liberal arts, behavioral sciences, management, music, and sound and cinematics. Recently, UAIU entered into an academic collaboration with SMU. This agreement was led by Mary and Richard Templeton Dean Nader Jalili from the Lyle School of Engineering and Professor Mak, marking Universal AI University's first collaboration with a Texas private university. Areas of collaboration between the two universities will include the development of student mobility programs, research projects, joint academic and scientific activities, and potential exchange of teaching personnel.

Professor Mak worked at SMU for 20 years and was a graduate of both the Cox School of Business and the Lyle School of Engineering. While we will miss his presence and contributions on campus, we are excited for the next step in his professional journey.

