

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
July 13, 2020

Pandemic/Post Pandemic Work Groups (#771)

Dr. Lloyd and guests Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman, Mr. Elias Martinez, and Ms. Kristin McDaniel discussed the Commencement Planning Work Group's recommendations for implementing virtual commencement ceremonies for spring 2020 and summer 2020 graduates, adding one or more in-person "make-up" ceremonies for later in the fall 2020, and for managing future commencement ceremonies in light of COVID-19.

Cabinet members agreed that an in-person make-up ceremony mid-fall 2020 will not be held in an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Spring and summer 2020 graduates will be permitted to attend a future in-person ceremony.

Cabinet members requested more time before finalizing the type of delivery mode (i.e., virtual, in-person, or blended) for the fall 2020 commencement ceremony.

Dr. Sriraman presented the Work Group's recommendations for a summer 2020 virtual commencement ceremony. Cabinet members approved the recommendations.

Mr. Martinez presented the Commencement Hub, a landing page for August 2020 commencement and a draft production timeline.

Dr. Sriraman announced that the August 2020 ceremony will go live on August 8, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Mr. Algoe suggested utilizing the last three weeks of the fall 2020 semester to give graduates multiple opportunities to participate in graduation traditions such as jumping in the river at Sewell Park.

Enrollment Management (#9)

Provost Bourgeois and guest Mr. Gary Ray provided an update on enrollment. Mr. Ray discussed several data points, including requests for exemptions to the housing requirement and results from a recent survey to students.

President Trauth will send a letter to faculty, staff, students, and parents delineating what is certain at Texas State during uncertain times.

Guest Mr. Elias Martinez provided an update on social media posts related to delivery of instruction and student services during fall 2020.

Coordinating Board Meeting (#5)

Dr. Lloyd discussed the agenda for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board meeting on July 23, 2020.

Campus Security (#142)

Dr. Lloyd, Mr. Algoe, and guests Chief Laurie Clouse and Dr. Sherri Benn discussed the first two of three town hall meetings on restorative justice. The first town hall meeting will be on July 24, 2020, and the second town hall meeting will be August 3, 2020. The third town hall meeting will be scheduled at a later date and is likely to be held at the beginning of the fall 2020 semester.

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Cavitt and guest Dr. Emilio Carranco presented a proposed dashboard for COVID-19 cases.

The dashboard, located on the [Roadmap to Return](#) website, will include case count data from Hays County, Williamson County, and the the Student Health Center. Dr. Carranco explained that the COVID-19 data does not reflect the number of community spread cases on Texas State campuses, as most students live off-campus. Mr. Algoe will work with Dr. Carranco, Mr. Elias Martinez in University Marketing, and Ms. Yvonne Rhodes in University Communications to build the dashboard page and add the appropriate narrative.

Digital Signage (#773)

Mr. Pierce proposed a digital signage strategy to keep the current solution, but greatly enhance the current implementation, structure, and processes, to include adding an advertising component to help defray costs. Dr. Trauth asked Mr. Algoe and Mr. Pierce to address some lingering questions and return this item to a future cabinet agenda.

President's Update (#556)

Provost Bourgeois provided an update on the Toward EXcellence Access and Successes grant. His team is looking into whether the grant program has been fully restored.

President Trauth discussed the new guidelines recently released by U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement regarding temporary exemptions to the Student and Exchange Visitor Program and shared with Cabinet members Texas State's position. President Trauth referred to the July 9, 2020, [email](#) that she sent to the Texas State community supporting international students and expressing the university's commitment to stand with peer institutions in opposing the new federal guidelines through whatever lawful means may be available.

President Trauth reflected on the Faculty and Staff Morale Work Group recommendations discussed during the July 6, 2020, Cabinet meeting and requested to return this item for discussion at a future Cabinet agenda.

RTA: 7/28/20 Discuss implementation of Faculty and Staff Morale Work Group recommendations.

Significant Issues (#01)

Mr. Algoe discussed whether supervisors should require a medical release in order for their employees, who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, to be able to return to work. Cabinet members agreed that requiring a medical release would be problematic, adding a return-to-work barrier. Instead, supervisors will be asked to follow the directives given by a medical health care provider to the employee upon diagnosis.

Dr. Cavitt provided an update on housing and opening housing requests to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Dr. Silva provided an update from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) Transition Team, which is comprised of representatives from the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion, the Office of Equity and Inclusion, and the Talent Acquisition Team from Human Resources. The team recommended naming the new organizational structure for DE&I, a structure that resulted from the merging of their different DE&I units, Institutional Inclusive Excellence.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on August 26, 2020.