

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
April 20, 2020

Spring Semester Flashpoints

President Trauth and guests Chief Laurie Clouse, Dr. Margarita Arellano, Ms. Brenda Rodriguez, and Ms. Sandy Pantlik discussed potential flashpoints for the end of the spring semester. Dr. Smith provided an overview of strategies for ensuring student safety during demonstrations. Staff responsible for managing demonstrations have established a protocol for managing demonstrations and will wear jackets with the Texas State logo and with "University Official" embroidered on them during demonstrations so that the Demonstration Team members are easily identifiable. Staff will also participate in de-escalation training and engage in tabletop exercises with the University Police Department (UPD). Chief Clouse announced that UPD has gone through de-escalation training. UPD, parking staff, and other personnel scan for posted flyers on a daily basis. UPD has also established a protocol for documenting flyers.

Federal Stimulus Package

President Trauth and guest Ms. Sandy Pantlik continued the discussion on the federal stimulus package with a focus on how funds will be distributed to the students and how this process will be communicated to the university community. The general plan discussed during the Cabinet meeting on April 16, 2020, is still intact, though Cabinet members recommended utilizing only one application instead of two applications to avoid confusion. The Financial Aid and Scholarships Office will review applications submitted by students who have demonstrated the need for financial assistance, whereas the Dean of Students will review applications submitted by students who have emerging needs for financial assistance. Implementation of the plan is dependent on additional guidance from the U. S. Department of Education and The Texas State University System (TSUS).

President Trauth discussed communicating the expansion of the Bobcat Promise to the university community and external audiences. Provost Bourgeois shared that his staff have already communicated the expansion to prospective freshmen on an individual basis. Cabinet members discussed whether the expansion of Bobcat Promise and financial assistance from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act should be communicated together or separately. University Marketing will design a dedicated webpage about the CARES Act and include a link to the application form.

Dr. Smith provided an update on emergency funding that has already been provided to students via Student Emergency Services. Cabinet members agreed to add an additional \$50,000 to the Student Emergency Services account to fund the pending requests.

Dr. Silva shared that the Advisory and Resource Network is collecting benchmark data on how other institutions are supporting Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals students.

Budget Cycle (#160)

Mr. Algoe and guest Ms. Cristine Black reviewed scenarios for budget planning purposes. President's Cabinet requested to build fiscal year 2021 budgets based on a 10 percent decline in enrollment and a 10 percent decline in state appropriations.

Coordinating Board Meeting (#5)

Dr. Lloyd discussed the upcoming Coordinating Board meeting, highlighting two times Texas State is identified in the agenda: Texas State's Master of Science in software engineering has been identified as a low-producing program; and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley is seeking approval to offer a Doctor of Physical Therapy and listed Texas State under existing programs. Provost Bourgeois will discuss with Dr. Hongchi Shi, Chair of Computer Science, whether to continue or discontinue the low-producing program

Albert B. Alkek Library

Mr. Pierce proposed library hours between spring and summer I session. For May 15-25, 2020, and May 26-29, 2020, the Albert B. Alkek Library will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Impact of COVID-19 Crisis

President Trauth discussed convening a post-pandemic task force to engage in discussions about how the pandemic may impact the next 12 months and the long-lasting changes to higher education that may result. Because many challenges need to be addressed, Cabinet members agreed to convening several small work groups; one work group will address pedagogical strategies, whereas another will focus on health, wellness, and safety. These work groups will be given very specific charges, such as to establish deadlines for making decisions about the instructional mode delivery for summer II and fall semester sessions and about whether to host summer camps and August commencement ceremonies. Dr. Lloyd will work with President Trauth to identify work groups and their respective composition and priorities.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth shared that she received clarification from The TSUS Chancellor Brian McCall about Governor Abbott's executive orders on schools remaining closed through the end of the school year. According to Chancellor McCall, the order is meant for campuses to be closed for the remainder of the spring semester, not through to the end of summer.

President Trauth announced that The TSUS Office is drafting a second edition about its history. On behalf of Texas State University, Dr. Ron Brown will provide The TSUS Office information on the following topics: Texas State being classified as an Emerging Research University; the

Ph.D. programs added during the previous decade; significant enrollment increases; attaining Hispanic Serving Institution status; Department of Athletics achieving movement to the Football Bowl Subdivision; Science Technology and Advanced Research Park; and significant construction programs.

Significant Issues (#01)

Provost Bourgeois provided an update on summer and fall enrollments.

Mr. Algoe discussed the construction deferral list, stating that every new project will be placed on the deferral list. For projects to be removed from the list, Cabinet members will need to seek approval from President Trauth. Mr. Algoe will distribute the most recent list to the Cabinet members.

Dr. Breier discussed that, nationwide, student organizations are becoming more active and beginning to protest politically charged issues, such as the economy. These protests may surface on the Texas State campuses and the Demonstrations Team needs to be prepared.

Dr. Silva sought clarification on the process by which hiring managers should submit hiring forms to the Office of Equity and Inclusion. In light of the recent hiring freeze, hiring managers are now required to submit documentation indicating that the President has approved their request to fill a position. There has been inconsistency with how the forms are submitted, with only some including President Trauth's signature. Cabinet members agreed that an incomplete form will be returned to the respective hiring manager before the position will be processed.

Mr. Algoe announced that housing refunds are ready to be processed and that he is waiting for Cabinet approval to begin processing refunds. Cabinet approved the request.

Dr. Smith provided a housing update.

Dr. Smith announced that Student Affairs staff are calling all freshmen, checking in on their welfare and answering questions that they may have.

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