

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
November 1, 2021

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Carranco compared data from the week of October 25, 2021, to data from the week of October 18, 2021.

Week-to-week comparisons revealed:

- In Texas, the average daily case counts decreased from 3,216 to 2,876 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 6 to 5.4 percent;
- In Williamson county, the average daily case counts decreased from 91 to 76, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 6.5 to 5.4 percent;
- In Travis county, the average daily case counts increased from 114 to 116 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 4.6 to 3.3 percent; and
- In Hays county, the average daily case counts increased from 32 to 34 cases per day. By meeting time, the positivity rate for the week of October 25, 2021, was not available; the positivity rate for the week of October 18, 2021, was 5.1 percent

Across Texas, hospitalizations declined by 20 to 25 percent from the previous week. Hospitalizations in Travis county have shown similar declines.

On October 31, 2021, active cases at Texas State were 58 cases.

Preliminary data for the week of October 25, 2021, indicate that Texas State had 13 positive tests out of 1,086 tests for a positivity rate of 1.2 percent. Positivity rates on Texas State campuses have hovered around one percent for about a month, indicating transmission on Texas State campuses is fairly low.

Vaccination rates among young adults ages 18 to 24 years of age is 55.5 percent, which is lagging behind other groups.

In the previous week, 28 cases have been reported to Bobcat Trace. Dr. Carranco discussed a couple of complications with Bobcat Trace. Some faculty have reported not receiving emails from Bobcat Trace when a student tests positive for COVID-19. Two likely scenarios were explained: 1) a notification from Bobcat Trace may end up in the faculty member's junk mail; or 2) the student who tested positive did not report to Bobcat Trace. Faculty are encouraged to submit their questions through the COVID-19 Supervisor and Faculty Questions portal on the Student Health Center website if they have a question about a possible case.

Texas State Website Initiative (#540)

Mr. Pierce and guest Elias Martinez, Assistant Vice President for University Marketing, discussed a formal initiative to convert all sites in Gato from the standard template to the “mobile-first” template. To date, 74 of Texas State’s 389 sites that live on Gato have been converted. Mr. Pierce will have one-on-one conversations with each Vice President to develop a plan for converting their sites to the new format. Mr. Martinez will run web analytics to identify the sites that need to be updated. Cabinet members discussed using one-time-funds to support the transformation process.

RTA: 02/07/2022 Continue discussion of university website mobile-first template implementation initiative.

Inclusion and Diversity (#747)

Dr. Silva continued the discussion on creating a DEIA Communication Network across the university. Vice Presidents of each division will appoint one or more individuals to function as a Network representative.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth announced that she will participate in a series of conversations about the search process for the Associate Vice President for Institutional Inclusive Excellence/Chief Diversity Officer.

President Trauth announced that the elimination of Local Committees will be discussed at the November 2021 Board of Regents meeting.

Significant Issues (#01)

Mr. Algoe is in the process of finalizing:

- how funds from the Texas Legislature-approved capital construction assistance projects will be distributed, and
- financial reports for fiscal year 2021.

Mr. Algoe provided an update on the search for the Chief of Police.

Mr. Algoe offered clarification on allocations for performance awards. During the previous round of budget cuts, funding for performance awards was reduced by 50 percent. Departments can supplement their performance award allocation to make up some of the difference.

Mr. Algoe discussed the need to develop a process for refreshing/updating building signage to comport with the new branding initiative.

Dr. Breier announced that:

- Mr. Cesquinn Curtis, Assistant Vice President for Business Operations, has announced his resignation, effective November 12, 2021.
- The Distinguished Alumni Gala is November 5, 2021.

Mr. Coryell discussed the letter he wrote to Bobcat Nation following the football team's loss to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette on October 30, 2021.

Mr. Coryell provided an update on the Sun Belt Conference realignment and reviewed the athletic events for the week.

Dr. Hernandez announced that:

- Homecoming events have begun. After Homecoming, Dr. Hernandez will engage in an after-action program review and solicit Cabinet members feedback on how to enhance events.
- Mr. Bill Mattera, the new Executive Director of the Department of Housing and Residential Life, has started working at Texas State.
- Parent and Family Relations has moved under the Dean of Students.

Dr. Silva announced that the Residence Halls Renaming Ceremony will be November 12, 2021, and Equality University will be November 13, 2021.

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Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on November 17, 2021.