

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
November 15, 2021

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Carranco compared data from the week of November 8, 2021, to data from the week of November 1, 2021.

Week-to-week comparisons revealed:

- In Texas, the average daily case counts increased from 2,295 to 2,811 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from five to 5.5 percent;
- In Williamson county, the average daily case counts increased from 61 to 76, and the average daily positivity rate increased from five to 5.7 percent;
- In Travis county, the average daily case counts decreased from 86 to 82 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 3.7 to 4.2 percent; and
- In Hays county, the average daily case counts increased from 19 to 30 cases per day. By meeting time, the positive rate for the week of November 8, 2021, had not been reported. For the week of November 1, 2021, the positivity rate was 5.3 percent.

Overall, hospitalizations in Texas are continuing to decline at a slow and steady rate. Travis county is experiencing a small uptick in hospitalizations.

On November 14, 2021, active cases at Texas State were 80 cases.

Preliminary data for the week of November 8, 2021, indicate that Texas State had 27 positive tests out of 1,187 tests for a positivity rate of 2.3 percent. Positivity rates at The University of Texas at Austin is 0.3 percent and Texas A&M University is 1.2 percent, respectively.

Data indicates the downward trend in case counts is beginning to flatten. Another surge after the holidays is likely. Parts of Europe and the Middle East are experiencing an uptick in case counts.

Board of Regents' Review (#500)

President's Cabinet and guests Ms. Brandi Martinez, Staff Council Chair, Mr. Andrew Gryce, Student Government President, and Mr. Jayme Blaschke, Public Information Specialist, reviewed the agenda items for the November 18-19, 2021, Board of Regents meeting.

Board of Regents News Release (#626)

Mr. Blaschke reviewed possible topics for inclusion in the news release on the current Board of Regents meeting. The awarding of Regents' Professor Awards to Dr. Susan Morrison and Dr. Rodney Rohde and Regents' Student Scholar Award to Lauren Green will be in the news release.

Inclusion and Diversity (#747)

Dr. Silva discussed takeaways from the Seal of *Excelencia* feedback session that President Trauth, Dr. Lloyd, Dr. Victoria Black, Associate Dean, University College Student Services, Dr. Sylvia Gonzales, Grant Director, University College, Dr. Toni Moreno, Assistant Director, Retention Management and Planning, and Dr. Silva participated in on November 8, 2021. In general, the application needs to show intentionality and impact in serving Latino students. The application should include clear descriptions of intentional strategies, and data needs to connect with specific strategies.

The feedback will be shared with the HSI Community Council members, who have been charged with leading efforts in submitting the next application. The next application cycle starts in March 2022 and is due in June 2022. President Trauth stated that successful application for the Seal of *Excelencia* is very important for Texas State.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth discussed the recent elevation of the position of Associate Vice President for Institutional Inclusive Excellence/Chief Diversity Officer to Vice President for Institutional Inclusive Excellence and the creation of a new Division of Institutional Inclusive Excellence. These changes better situate the position for success and lay the groundwork for continual creation of a university climate where all are supported and belong.

President Trauth announced that the President's Cabinet Retreat will be held on January 12-13, 2022, and its primary purpose is to discuss content that should be included in briefing documents for the next university president.

President Trauth expressed her appreciation for the Festival Panel Discussions held at The Wittliff Collections on November 14, 2021.

President Trauth discussed the Board of Regents' Rules and Regulations change that eliminate Local Committees. Moving forward, the summary of Board Materials previously prepared for the Local Committees will now be folded into the President's Briefing.

Significant Issues (#01)

Provost Bourgeois shared that in conversations he has had with academic units, he has received feedback to make diversity, equity, inclusion, and access its own goal in the next strategic plan.

Mr. Algoe announced that:

- Mr. Matthew Carmicheal will be the next Director and Chief of the University Police Department beginning January 10, 2022.
- There are two finalists for the Associate Vice President for Facilities position.

Mr. Coryell discussed the football team's disappointing loss to Georgia Southern University on November 13, 2021, and plans to strengthen recruiting efforts and enhance the game day experience. A consultant has been hired to assess concessions, and post-game concert events will continue next year.

Mr. Coryell announced that:

- Kwanele Mthembu finished second at the NCAA Division I South Central Regional Cross Country Championship and has qualified to compete at the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships.
- The volleyball team will enter the Sun Belt Conference postseason tournament as the top seed in the conference's west division.

Dr. Hernandez praised her staff for its hard work during Homecoming Week and the Veteran's Day Commemoration. Bourgeois provided feedback to enhance the Student Foundation-led Veteran's Day event.

Dr. Silva shared her appreciation for Ms. Holly Hirsch, Director, Special Projects, and Dr. Hernandez. They played key roles in the Naming Ceremony on November 12, 2021. Dr. Silva discussed how well Equality University went on November 13, 2021. Dr. Silva provided an update on Council of Inclusive Excellence's work on recommendations from the Life Anew report.

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Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on December 21, 2021.