

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
July 8, 2020

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Cavitt and guest Dr. Emilio Carranco discussed the pros and cons of a dashboard and timeline for making decisions about university operations for fall 2020. While a dashboard provides transparency, its information can lead to inaccurate conclusions based on a number of factors which include the fact that most universities do not maintain a dashboard and/or type of data collected varies, making comparisons across universities difficult. Despite this downside, Cabinet members approved the creation of a dashboard that illustrates the number of new cases per day (tested by the Student Health Center and reported to the Student Health Center) broken down by faculty/staff (combined) and students.

Dr. Carranco provided an update on the latest epidemiological data, including new cases, positivity rates, and hospital rates.

President Trauth requested an update on additional modifications proposals submitted by faculty and staff for fall 2020. Dr. Lloyd will gather this information from the ADA Compliance Coordinator.

RTA: 7/13/20 Dr. Emilio Carranco to present a proposed dashboard for COVID-19 cases.

Dr. Cavitt and guests Dr. Jen Beck and Dr. Michael Nava discussed freshman engagement and retention. Dr. Nava reviewed the PACE Center Engagement of PACE Cohorts 2019-20 and 2020-21. Cabinet members discussed strategies to engage and support students who are fully online and who are at higher risk for not continuing in their educational pursuits at Texas State.

Dr. Beck summarized the retention initiatives targeting continuing students. Dr. Beck underscored that these efforts are university-wide, involving many units from the Division of Student Affairs and the Division of Academic Affairs. Dr. Breier will assign a communications team to write a story about these retention and engagement efforts.

Family Weekend (#687)

Dr. Cavitt and guest Dr. Jen Beck discussed Family Weekend. To limit the size of events in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Beck proposed to not host one Family Weekend this fall 2020, but instead, to offer families the opportunity to choose their own Family Weekend adventure. Cabinet members approved the proposal.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth reported that TSUS Chancellor Brian McCall is optimistic about the restoration of the Toward EXcellence Access and Success grant program.

The TSUS Board of Regents meeting in August 2020 will be face-to-face. The scaled down version will only include the presidents, the provosts, and the chief financial officers from each of the component institutions.

President Trauth continued the polling place discussion from the President's Cabinet meeting on July 6, 2020. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cabinet members discussed whether social distancing could be ensured in the LBJ Student Center and, thus, proposed alternative polling places, including portable buildings, the University Events Center, and Student Recreation Center.

Significant Issues (#01)

Mr. Algoe provided a preliminary summer 2020 financial report.

Mr. Algoe discussed ways to distribute hand sanitizers to students.

Mr. Algoe announced that he is working with the Office of Sponsored Programs on Texas Research Incentive Program funding earmarked for buildings.

Mr. Algoe announced that he is convening a small group to discuss planning for fall 2020 and sought direction from Cabinet members.

Mr. Algoe discussed Texas State's approach to budget reductions by offering the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program and not filling most vacant positions. At this time, budgetary reduction targets were achieved without layoffs.

Dr. Cavitt provided a housing update. Cabinet members approved releasing available rooms to continuing students.

Dr. Trauth provided an update on the Sun Belt Conference's position on athletic programming for fall 2020.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on August 11, 2020.