

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
April 27, 2020

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 the process has been communicated to the university community. Bobcat Cares was launched on April 23, 2020, and received coverage via area news stations and social media channels. Upcoming issues of TXST Connections and From the Hill will also feature Bobcat Cares. Dr. Breier shared that comments were very positive and relayed that questions were mostly limited to international students and current students.

Mr. Algoe announced that the online application went live on April 27, 2020, and will remain open until May 27, 2020. If there are unspent funds at the end of the application period, then the application portal will be reopened for a second round of awards.

Mr. Algoe reviewed the action plan for expending CARES Act Funds. Seventy-five percent will be distributed by the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships and 25 percent will be distributed by the Division of Student Affairs. There is only one application. Applications will be divided into two categories based on expected family contributions. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will make awards of: \$800 to students who filed a FAFSA and have an expected family contribution (EFC) of \$8,001 to \$12,000; \$1,200 to students with an EFC of \$4,001 to \$8,000; and \$1,600 to students with an EFC of \$0 to \$4,000. The Dean of Students Office will award a maximum of \$700 to students with emerging financial need, i.e., to those who have an EFC greater than \$12,000 (as demonstrated by the FAFSA) or who have not filed a FAFSA and, thus, have no EFC. The latter awards are intended for students, who as a result of the COVID-19 situation, recently experienced an economic hardship like a job loss. Because DACA students cannot receive CARES funding, Cabinet members discussed other options for supporting DACA students.

Bobcat Promise

Provost Bourgeois and guest Ms. Sandy Pantlik discussed how the expansion of Bobcat Promise will be communicated. In collaboration with University Marketing, University Communications has already posted the information in the TXST Newsroom and will send out a press release and share through all available channels on April 27, 2020. Provost Bourgeois lauded Mr. Elias Martinez for putting together a stellar social media campaign around financial support of Texas State students. Provost Bourgeois explained that the expansion of Bobcat Promise is for new students. While he understands current students' disappointment, there is only enough funds available to cover new students.

Impact of COVID-19 Crisis

President Trauth continued the discussion on convening small working groups to address pandemic and post pandemic challenges. Cabinet members agreed that the working assumption is that face-to-face instruction will return in summer II and fall 2020.

VPSA Search

Dr. Lloyd discussed the VPSA leadership profile.

University Budget

Mr. Algoe discussed the fiscal year 2021 budget.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth announced that she recently updated the alumni board members and leadership council on Texas State's: response to the COVID-19 situation; financial assistance to students; and financial planning efforts for fiscal year 2021. President Trauth will provide a similar update to faculty and staff. Information Technology will work with President Trauth to set up a meeting that can accommodate a large number of participants.

Significant Issues (#01)

Provost Bourgeois provided admissions for summer session II and fall 2020 admissions update.

Mr. Algoe shared a timeline for implementation of budget changes.

Mr. Algoe announced that complimentary curbside lunches will continue through May 4, 2020. Mr. Algoe lauded Chartwells and the dining services team for serving hundreds of meals per day and shared that they are making plans to offer a free lunch to first responders.

Dr. Breier shared that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in partnership with the Greater Texas Foundation and the Trellis Foundation, has launched the Texas Emergency Aid Grant Program to support students enrolled in Texas higher education institutions during the COVID-19 crisis.

Mr. Pierce provided an update on Texas State's progress toward membership in Association of Research Libraries (ARL). The ARL request for membership was submitted in June 2019; an informal site visit was completed in March 2020; and a notice that Texas State passed the informal site visit was received in April 2020. The next step is a formal site visit. Given travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 situation, a virtual site visit is being considered in lieu of a formal in-person visit.

Mr. Pierce announced that the Office of Civil Rights is reviewing Texas State's website accessibility.

Dr. Silva suggested to add closed captioning to remote meetings conducted by university administrators and involving faculty and staff.

Dr. Smith provided an update on housing.

Dr. Smith shared that staff in the Division of Student Affairs launch a calling program for the purposes of checking in with freshmen and answering any questions they may have. To date, 1,400 freshmen have been called.

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Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on May 28, 2020.