

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
July 30, 2020

Pandemic/Post Pandemic Work Groups (#771)

Dr. Lloyd and guest Dr. Debbie Thorne continued discussing the recommendations for the Faculty and Staff Morale Work Group. Regarding the recommendation to revisit and raise awareness of classroom management policies, Dr. Thorne presented "Recommended Faculty Response to Students Violating Health and Safety Principles." Cabinet members approved the document. Dr. Lloyd suggested that a similar document be developed for staff and will work with Mr. Algoe and Dr. Cavitt. Dr. Cavitt reminded Cabinet members that employees may ask students for their student identification card. Thus, if a student violates a [health and safety measure](#), then the employee can submit the student's information directly to the Dean of Students for follow-up via the [Code of Student Conduct Referral Form](#).

Cabinet members discussed the recommendation for ongoing virtual meetings. President Trauth reviewed the current meetings that have already been scheduled with Faculty Senate and Staff Council. Vice presidents will hold divisional town hall meetings, and Dr. Breier will attend the additional town hall meetings to address budgetary challenges related to COVID-19.

Regarding the recommendation to create a portal for faculty and staff to provide written feedback, Cabinet members proposed creating: 1) a COVID-specific e-mail account to solicit open-ended feedback, or 2) a survey to solicit feedback about a specific topic. For the latter, the topic would be changed every couple of weeks. Dr. Lloyd will convene a small work group to discuss design and maintenance.

RTA: 8/3/20 Update on the creation of a platform for faculty and staff to provide written feedback.

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Lloyd proposed changes to the face covering policy, making it more specific. Cabinet members approved the following: Cloth face coverings are required in all public indoor spaces, unless alone behind closed doors, and in all outdoor spaces when physical distancing is not possible.

Dr. Thorne will ask University Marketing to make available a downloadable "Mask-up" document tailored specifically to Texas State. The document will be posted on the [Roadmap to Return](#) for university offices to download, print, and display at their entrances.

Proposed Change to NetID Creation Algorithm

Mr. Pierce discussed implications for changing the NetID creation algorithm and proposed a solution. President's Cabinet approved the proposal.

Tuition and Fees (#380)

Mr. Algoe discussed the electronic course fee. The electronic course fee provides funding for the development and maintenance of courses delivered online and has been in place for more than 15 years. In contrast, the on-campus fees provide students who attend face-to-face classes access to services provided by the Student Health Center, the Student Recreation Center, and offices in the LBJ Student Center.

The process of moving classes from face-to-face to online triggered automatic changes in student bills, raising student and parent concerns over billing. Recognizing the financial difficulties the COVID-19 pandemic has created for many students, Cabinet members agreed to revise the fee structure for online and hybrid classes to more closely mirror fees that students would have incurred had some face-to-face classes not moved to online or hybrid delivery for the fall 2020 semester. Three changes will be made. First, if a student has at least one face-to-face class, the \$50 per-credit-hour electronic course fee will not be charged. Students will still be responsible to pay other fees normally charged when registered for a face-to-face class. Second, if a student is only taking online/hybrid courses, \$342 in on-campus fees will not be charged and an electronic course fee of \$50 per semester credit hour will be charged. Third, if a student's online/hybrid course includes a lab, the lab fees will not be assessed.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth shared that she participated in an Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Council of Presidents meeting with Chairman Lamar Alexander on July 30, 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Phase IV COVID-19 relief package known as the Health, Economic Assistance, Liability Protection and Schools Act recently unveiled by U. S. Senate Republicans.

Significant Issues (#01)

Mr. Algoe announced that the Office of the Texas Governor has announced two separate rounds of funding for higher education: \$57 million in federal funding will be used to maintain the state's need-based financial aid programs, thereby restoring recent reductions in the Toward Excellence, Access, and Success grant program, and \$118 million in federal funding will be used to support higher education. Guidance for the latter is expected to be provided by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in fall 2020.

Mr. Algoe provided an update on a City of San Marcos construction project that will result in portions of University Drive being closed to thru traffic.

Dr. Breier provided an update on the Blackbaud, Inc., data security incident. The type of information that was accessed included some personal identifying information and relationship history, but no credit card information, bank account information, or social security numbers.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on September 29, 2020.