

To: President's Cabinet  
From: Denise M. Trauth  
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting  
February 10, 2020

### **Board of Regents' Review (#500)**

Provost Bourgeois, Mr. Algoe, and guests Dr. Natalie Ceballos, Faculty Senate Vice Chair; Mr. Corey Benbow, Student Government President; and Mr. Jayme Blaschke reviewed agenda items.

### **Board of Regents News Release (#626)**

Dr. Breier and guest Mr. Jayme Blaschke reviewed possible topics for inclusion in the news release on the upcoming TSUS Board of Regents meeting. The news release will highlight that the recipients of the four Regents' Awards are all from Texas State and will announce the launch of three new academic degree programs, including master of science degrees in construction management and in quantitative finance and economics, and a bachelor of arts degree in religious studies.

### **Commencement (#143)**

Provost Bourgeois and guest Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman discussed the fiscal year 2020 commencement budget. The permanent commencement budget, which was last increased in fiscal year 2014, is \$270,000. However, the estimated expenditures for fiscal year 2020 are \$503,719, about \$234,000 more than what has been permanently allocated. Since fiscal year 2017, graduate and guest attendance has increased by 16 percent, the number of event staff employed has increased by 39 percent, and shuttle service cost has increased by 44 percent.

Since commencement involves many departments from different divisions, President Trauth requested that the Vice Presidents review the budgeted costs of the services provided by their respective divisions and return to a future cabinet meeting with recommendations for budget adjustments. In particular, Dr. Smith will consult with Mr. Gavin Steiger, Director of the Office of Disabilities Services, about whether the use of both captioning services and interpreting services is considered best practice. Mr. Algoe will consult with Parking Services to determine if the Mill Street parking lot is necessary for overflow parking. If deemed unnecessary, then five buses may not be needed. Mr. Algoe will also consult with Chief Clouse to determine the optimal number of security staff for commencement. Finally, while Cabinet members agreed that printed programs for candidates are important, they questioned whether printed programs should be made available to guests, too. Dr. Sriraman will explore making available to guests a downloadable commencement ceremony program.

**RTA: 3/9/2020 Continue discussion and approval of Commencement Budget Fiscal Year 2020.**

### **Student Success (#768)**

Provost Bourgeois and guests Dr. Mary Ellen Cavitt and Mr. Joe Meyer discussed the current state of retention at Texas State, explained the method employed to analyze retention data, and presented recommendations from the retention work group. Texas State's retention rate goal is 80 percent. Currently, however, the retention rate hovers around 76 percent. Logistic regression revealed five predictors of retention: family income, high school rank, SAT score, parent's educational attainment, and US 1100 grade. Recommended action items included but not limited to: raising awareness of the effect of "DFW" grades in 20 high "DFW" classes and all US 1100 classes on student retention, developing an Academic Probation Recovery Program, creating a Faculty Institute for Student Success, and changing Bobcat Preview curriculum. President Trauth will charge a Student Transition and Engagement Committee, based on recommendations from Drs. Bourgeois and Smith, to conduct a holistic review of Bobcat Preview and identify other retention strategies tailored for both new and transfer students. Mr. Algeo suggested to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a student success management system to increase retention and revenue. Mr. Algeo will share a sample RFP with Dr. Bourgeois.

### **RTA: 5/4/20 Discuss acquisition of a student success management system.**

Cabinet members approved the Retention Task Force recommendations.

### **Family Campaign (#696)**

Dr. Breier and guest Dr. Dan Perry provided an update on the 2020 Family Campaign plans, which is set to kick off on February 24, 2020. For 2019, 70 percent of Texas State employees contributed to the Campaign. For 2020, the target is 75 percent. In addition to the Family Campaign General Scholarship Fund, Bobcat Bounty will be featured during this year's Campaign.

### **Board of Regents (BOR) Rules and Regulations (#12)**

Dr. Lloyd reviewed the proposed changes to the rules and regulations.

### **Art for New or Renovation Building**

Mr. Algeo reviewed recommendations for artwork in the LBJ Student Center. Cabinet members approved two of the three recommendations. Cabinet members agreed that the new ballroom should not have substantial artwork, as to not limit decoration styles for events. Mr. Algeo will ask the Public Art Committee to recommend a new location in the LBJ Student Center and new artwork, including hung artwork, for this location.

**President's Update (#556)**

President Trauth shared that she has begun meeting with student organizations. On February 7, 2020, Dr. Trauth met with Underrepresented Student Advisory Council and Chabad Jewish Bobcats. Both meetings were very productive and engaging, and students expressed genuine interest in assisting with recruitment and retention efforts.

**Significant Issues (#01)**

Provost Bourgeois announced that an open house on the Round Rock Campus will be held February 21, 2020, and Bobcat Days will be held on the San Marcos Campus on February 22, 2020.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on March 31, 2020.