

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
September 9, 2020

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Lloyd and guest Dr. Emilio Carranco provided an update on the COVID-19 situation and the strategies in play to mitigate the spread, and discussed updating the dashboard. COVID-19 related metrics in Texas and in Hays and Williamson counties continue to improve; case counts, hospitalization rates, and positivity rates continue to decrease.

The Student Health Center is mainly testing individuals with symptoms, close contacts, and student-athletes. The positivity rate at the Student Health Center is 5.4 percent. Cabinet members approved the addition of the positivity rate and a seven-day rolling case count average to the dashboard. Hospitalization rate will not be added to the dashboard, as it is difficult to follow. Many students return home when sick. To date, Dr. Carranco is unaware of any students, faculty, or staff being hospitalized due to COVID-19. Dr. Carranco added that there has been no evidence of spread.

Dr. Carranco announced that he attends weekly meetings with local public health authority Mr. Eric Schneider. In consultation with Mr. Schneider, Dr. Carranco said that announcing to an entire class when a student has tested positive is a violation of privacy and confidentiality laws.

Dr. Carranco provided an update on surveillance testing and discussed ways to strengthen testing. The Student Health Center sent 1,200 invitations to students; to-date, only 40 students responded to the invitation. When Antigen testing becomes available, testing capacity will increase. Dr. Carranco requested that we transition from surveillance to proactive testing. Proactive testing will include free testing offered to students, faculty, and staff. Cabinet members approved the request, and Dr. Lloyd will update the Roadmap accordingly.

The Student Health Center is exploring ways to offer COVID-19 testing at the Round Rock Campus.

Dr. Carranco explained the differences among PCR, Antigen, and antibody testing. Currently, the Centers for Disease Control has not endorsed a particular testing strategy, as no scientific data supports effectiveness of any particular testing strategy.

The legality of requiring mandatory COVID-19 testing was discussed.

Dr. Carranco provided an update on contact tracing. The Student Health Center is able contact trace positive cases within 24 hours, but it takes up to 36 hours to contact trace close contacts. The demand for contact tracing has increased; as such, the Student Health Center is in the

process of hiring and training more contact tracers. Dr. Cavitt will work with Dr. Carranco to identify more contact tracers.

Cabinet members requested a place for faculty to report students suspected of having COVID-19 on the Student Health Center website.

Enrollment Management (#9)

Provost Bourgeois and guest Mr. Gary Ray provided weekly updates on fall 2020 enrollment. Compared to the same time during the previous year, the overall headcount is 37,874, which is down one percent (-398 students), undergraduate headcount is 33,538, which is down 2.1 percent (-720 students), and graduate headcount is 4,335, which is up eight percent (+321). Semester Credit Hours (SCHs) are down 2.6 percent (-12,042 SCHs). New masters' enrollment is up 24.1 percent (+268 students).

The 2019 freshman class one-year retention rate is 7.6 percent, which is up 1.2 percentage points from 75.7 to 76.9 percent.

Mr. Ray announced that the 12th day census number will be finalized on September 10, 2020, and will be shared at a future Cabinet meeting.

For summer 2020 graduation, 1,795 students graduated, which is up 5.6 percent (+96 graduates).

Texas State launched the Coalition App in December 2019 and collected 449 applications.

Statewide enrollment trends for fall 2020, based on data gleaned from the Apply Texas Dashboard, indicate that freshmen applications are flat, new transfers applications are down two percent, readmit applications are up eight percent, and international freshmen and transfer applications are down 11 and 26 percent, respectively.

Mr. Ray discuss the recruitment and retention opportunities that will result from the emergency funds that Texas State will receive (i.e., \$2.7 million from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund and \$2.8 million from the Texas EXcellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) Grant Program).

Guest Mr. Elias Martinez gave an update on social media trends, with positive engagement primarily centered around the Texas State versus SMU football game.

Pandemic/Post Pandemic Work Groups (#771)

Dr. Lloyd discussed reconvening certain pandemic/post-pandemic work groups to review previously approved recommendations. Now that the fall 2020 semester has begun, Cabinet members agreed the time is right for reviewing previously approved recommendations and making revisions/updates, as needed. Cabinet members approved reconvening the Continuity of

Education Work Group, the Continuity of Student Life Work Group, the Faculty and Staff Moral Work Group, and the Commencement Planning Work Group.

2020 Summer School Survey

Due to a lack of time, this item was not discussed.

President's Update (#556)

Due to a lack of time, this item was not discussed.

Significant Issues (#01)

Due to a lack of time, this item was not discussed.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on October 1, 2020.