

To: President's Cabinet  
From: Denise M. Trauth  
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting  
September 11, 2020

### **Graduation with Academic Honors Policy**

Provost Bourgeois and guest Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman provided an overview of the revisions made to the Graduation with Academic Honors policy. The primary modification being related to the student credit hour (SCH) requirement. To be eligible for graduation with academic honors, the number of SCHs a student must complete was reduced from 54 to 48.

### **2020 Summer School Survey**

Dr. Chittenden provided a summary of the preliminary results from the of 2020 Summer School Survey of students. Compared to summer 2019, total head count and SCHs for summer 2020 increased by 10.1 percent and 11 percent, respectively. The top three reasons that respondents ranked most important in their decision to enroll in summer 2020 classes were: normal progress towards degree completion, desire to complete degree requirements faster, and availability of online classes.

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

President Trauth discussed dining services provided to students in isolation and quarantine. Mr. Algoe shared that dining services provide three meals and one snack per day.

President Trauth discussed the option of opening Texas State parking lots to drive-in movie nights. Dr. Cavitt suggested using an athletic field for movie night.

### **Significant Issues (#01)**

Provost Bourgeois provided an update on course delivery modes for the fall 2020 semester. About 55 percent of courses have a face to face component. Of these, about 20 percent fall in the traditional mode of delivery.

Mr. Algoe discussed President Trump's Memorandum issued on August 8, 2020, and guidance followed from Internal Revenue Service on August 28, 2020, to temporarily defer Social Security tax withholdings. This change is effective through the end of the 2020 calendar year. Mr. Algoe underscored that the executive order is a tax deferral, not a permanent tax cut. The deferred taxes will ultimately need to be paid back by workers. With this in mind and given that Texas State has not reduced pay or laid off employees, the Texas State will not implement this option.

Mr. Algoe announced that September 10, 2020, was Census Day and anticipated net revenue is down 6.5 percent. Funding from the State Legislature remains uncertain.

Mr. Algoe summarized how CARES Act funding has been/will be distributed. In total, of the \$39.7 million awarded through CARES Act funding to date, more than \$36.5 million has been/will be awarded directly to students.

Mr. Pierce discussed the latest phishing attacks.

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