

**Council of Academic Deans Meeting  
August 10, 2021**

**Summary and Action Items**

1. **Celebrate HSI Week** – Dr. Bob Vasquez announced that TXST will celebrate HSI Week September 13-19, 2021. He distributed a draft schedule of events that includes the HSI 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet to celebrate TXST's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being designated as an HSI. Dr. Vasquez encouraged the deans to celebrate in ways relevant to their college and discussion was held regarding participation on the Round Rock Campus. If anyone would like to co-sponsor, please contact Ms. Sylvia Gonzalez in University College.
  
2. **Phi Beta Kappa Application** – Dr. Heather Galloway announced that TXST would be submitting an application for a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, due January 2022. Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest honor society in the United States (established 1789) and recognizes the top 10% of undergraduate students in liberal arts, the sciences, and a few other areas. She discussed the advantages of having a chapter at TXST and asked the deans to discuss with their department chairs/school directors the importance of supporting this application. Typically, Phi Beta Kappa accepts three new chapters during each three-year application cycle.
  
3. **Undergraduate Research – Honors College Reports** – Dr. Galloway distributed to each dean their undergraduate research report for their respective colleges. She also provided the Council with the Undergraduate Research Report 2020-2021 Summary and asked the deans to encourage students to submit articles to the *TXSTUR Journal*. Students studying and conducting scholarly work in any field may submit to this journal.
  
4. **Undergraduate Admissions Report** – Mr. Gary Ray provided the Council with an undergraduate admissions report. Mr. Ray reported that there is a late surge in students registering for classes. August 1, 2021 is the cut-off deadline for TXST to stop accepting applications for the fall semester. Two additional orientation events were held on August 5 and 6, 2021. Students will have their class schedules dropped for non-payment on August 20, 2021.

As of August 10, 2021, there are 6,118 freshmen registered and 2,616 transfer students registered. The goal for the fall 2021 freshman class is 6,500.

Students registered for the fall 2021 semester can submit their application for Bobcat Cares August 23–September 9, 2021. There is \$40M to be awarded and students must apply through the BOSS System ([www.txstate.edu/cares](http://www.txstate.edu/cares))

The university has increased scholarships to students, including 262 students in the Bobcats to Bobcats scholarship program (\$1,000 each) and other programs.

In addition to ongoing efforts, colleges, departments, and advising centers are encouraged to communicate directly with students who are not yet registered for the fall 2021 semester. A report in LOGI provides student names and contact information.

The Council discussed the importance of meeting student demand during the late surge of registrations as well as the need for better data and systems for predicting enrollment needs. The University Registrar is working with a company on a course demand system.

5. **Graduate Admissions Report** – Dr. Andrea Golato provided the Council with a graduate admissions report. Dr. Golato reported that a handful of applications are still being received for the fall semester. She reiterated that there is a decrease in applications and student admissions from last year due to several new degree programs last year. She also noted that there is a significant increase in continuing students, a decrease in new master’s students, and an increase in new doctoral students.

6. **COVID-19 Updates** – Dr. Bourgeois reiterated the messaging in President Trauth’s email of August 10, 2021 to students, faculty, and staff regarding mitigating the spread of COVID-19 as we approach the fall semester. The email reiterates the importance of taking personal responsibility and following health and safety measures.

Discussion was held regarding students who miss classes and assignments. ODS modifications expired at the end of Summer Session II. Faculty are not required to make modifications for students, including individualized instructional modalities. For example, a Zoom option is not required for face-to-face classes. As in the past, faculty follow ODS recommendations for students with documented ADA-based accommodations. Instructors have the discretion on how to manage a high number of student absences. Faculty are allowed to hold office hours virtually. Seating charts and attendance tracking are required for Bobcat Trace purposes. Dr. Bourgeois encouraged everyone to continue to reference the Texas State Roadmap, Frequently Asked Questions in the Roadmap, and university email for additional communications and future updates.

Buses will be running at 100% capacity and masks will be required on buses because of federal transportation authority guidelines. Viral spray in classrooms continues.

A town hall will be held on August 17, 2021 to provide updates and answer questions. The Council discussed the university’s capacity for COVID-19 testing and vaccinations as well as protocol for remote work based on guidance from Bobcat Trace.

7. **Fall 2021 Classes** – see COVID-19 Updates

8. **Budget Planning** – no updated was provided for this agenda item