

To: President's Cabinet
From: Kelly R. Damphousse
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
June 26, 2023

President's Cabinet First Review Draft BOR Materials

Mr. Algoe reviewed the first draft of Board Materials for the August 2023 BOR meeting.

Division of Academic Affairs

Provost Bourgeois provided an update to changes in the Academic Affairs organizational structure and oversight of first-year advising and exploratory majors. First-Year Advising now directly reports to the Office of the Provost to ensure consistent oversight and management of advising. Exploratory advising also reports directly to the Office of the Provost and continues to provide university-wide assistance to students who are exploring options or are in transition in their academic program whether by their own choice or because they have not met program requirements.

Currently, Provost Bourgeois and Dr. Hernandez are leading meetings to discuss current challenges and to develop a comprehensive strategy to streamline advising services. Recent challenges are related to the decoupling of advising and the on-campus programming components of New Student Orientation (NSO). Decoupling occurred to eliminate challenges associated with the need to advise an even higher volume of students this cycle in the compressed time of each on-campus session, and to focus time on campus toward engagement and connection to a Bobcat identity. Though the ideal process would have involved advising students prior to their having attended NSO, students have been arriving for their on-campus sessions without having been registered or even advised. That resulted in some students leaving NSO without getting enrolled for the Fall 2023 semester. In addition to continuing to offer individual and group advising sessions every day both in-person and virtually to students who have taken appropriate steps to become advising-ready, First-Year Advising added group advising sessions on Day 2 of every on-campus NSO session beginning on June 21st. They have also expanded other group advising sessions significantly to expand capacity for advising the remaining FTIC cohort. After group sessions, First-Year Advisors create an individual course registration plan for each student based on students' earned college hours. To increase how quickly plans are created, college advisors will be asked to assist.

Merrick Funds

Provost Bourgeois discussed the FY24 Merrick Fund requests.

President's Report

President Damphousse shared his appreciation to President's Cabinet for participating in the strategic planning forum on June 20, 2023, and in Ally training on June 21, 2023.

President Damphousse reminded the Cabinet of a Mandatory Tabletop Exercise on June 29, 2023, facilitated by Lynn Lindsay, Emergency Manager within Environmental, Health, Safety, Risk and Emergency Management.

President Damphousse announced that on June 23, 2023, he and Dr. Secuban met with the Inclusive Excellence leadership team and the staff members who currently support Inclusive Excellence student-centered initiatives to discuss preliminary plans to address Senate Bill 17. Once the details of the plans are established, a university wide email of these plans will be disseminated.

President Damphousse shared that the TSUS Office of General Counsel has asked all components to conduct a comprehensive self-assessment of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in light of the passage of Senate Bill 17.

President Damphousse announced that Dr. Julie Lessiter has accepted his offer to serve as the inaugural Vice President for the Round Rock Campus, beginning August 2, 2023. He also expressed his deepest appreciation to Dr. Janet Bezner for serving as interim VPRRC during the search.

New Business

No new business was discussed.

KRD:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on July 10, 2023.