

President’s Cabinet Minutes

March 28, 2024

**HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY POINTS**

* All strategic plan pillars are on schedule and tracking as they should. Interested individuals can check on these at anytime though the Strategy website.
  + Link to [Strategic Plan PowerPoint](https://msudenver.sharepoint.com/:p:/s/UniversityStrategy/Ea4u6ylDZt1MgR_6QowyBpkBKLDD5hMzbpJw-wSazEDMLA) & [Office of Strategic Initiatives and Analytics](https://www.msudenver.edu/strategy/) website
* Joint Budget Committee’s final proposal includes $132M for higher education, 3% tuition increase cap, $8.4M for new student information system, and $6M for the C2 Hub.
* On track to secure Health Institute funding, the bill is now in the House and Senate for decision.
  + Governor’s decision on budget proposal is around April 22
* Discussion around the structure and need for three Presidential Advisory Councils:
  + Built Environment and Infrastructure – this council will collaborate with Strategy moving forward.
  + Academic Excellence and Student Success Council – a lot of the work is being done through Student Success Launch.
  + Culture and Workplace – see the need and value of this committee; discussion to continue at next Cabinet Meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

* Liz Goodnick, Faculty Senate President will review current committees and report back at next President’s Cabinet the ones that overlap with Presidential Advisory Committees.
* Anyone/everyone can provide feedback on today’s Cabinet meeting using this [Qualtrics Link](https://msudenver.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6mwozHpmi06WS22)
  + Submissions are confidential unless stated otherwise.
  + Deadline to submit feedback is April 17 (one week before the next meeting)

# Approval of minutes – Edward Brown Chief of Staff

1. **Provost’s Update (11:00 AM-11:15 AM) –** Dr. Laura Nieson de Abruña
   * Hired an Executive Director of Online Learning, Dr. JaeEun Joo
   * Dean of the School of Hospitality, Lynn Minnaert, to start May 13
   * Mark your calendars for a new, interdisciplinary day of learning on August 23 called the Community Collab Summit
   * Professional Development Opportunity: AI Workshops – first one is Friday, March 29 (can sign-up for in-person or online)
   * Dealing with relocation sof 60+ classrooms and 100 office spaces, including 3 Deans’ offices; appreciate patience and visit msudenver.edu/facilities to find a full list of where you can find displaced offices.
   * Campus Climate survey is open through Sunday, March 31; please encourage students to take this survey.
   * Roadrunners Who Soar awards is April 4th
   * MSU Denver Day of Giving is April 11th
   * Spring Commencement is May 10th ; keynote speaker is alumna and Congresswoman, Brittany Pettersen.
   * **Roadrunner Shoutout Awards**

**Faculty winner - Dr. Todd Yokley**

Nominated by: Nicholas Recker, chair, Sociology and Anthropology

Nomination:

“I am delighted to nominate Dr. Todd Yokley for a Faculty Shout Out Award. Dr. Yokley is a biological anthropologist whose expertise focuses on human and primate evolutionary biology. As a Professor in the department of Sociology & Anthropology, he utilizes CADRE values to provide students an exceptional learning experience. A recent example of this is his work was the creation of the Rocky Mountain Biological Anthropology Association (RMBAA). Dr. Yokley is a co-founder and first President of this organization.”

“Moreover, Todd has continually involved his students in experiential learning. In the past, he has brought MSU Denver students to fossil digs in Wyoming. He has also created new courses to compliment and develop these experiences. Truly, Dr. Yokley is deserving of this shout out!”

**Staff winner - Jesse Drewes**

Nominated by Brandi Rideout, Sr. Director of Alumni Engagement, Alumni Relations, University Advancement

Nomination:

“Jesse joined the Alumni Relations team January 2023 after serving as our Rockies 50/50 Raffle Intern the previous year. In his role, he manages the Roadrunner Mascot Program, the Rockies 50/50 Raffle Program and coordinates the logistics for all university alumni events.”

“In his first year on the team, Jesse planned 56 alumni events, in which 1,197 alumni attended; he worked 76 out of 81 home Rockies games while managing 942 volunteers, that produced over $200,000 in revenue to support MSU Denver student groups and scholarships; and he supervised 5 student mascots that were present at over 100 events on campus and in the community.”

**Student winner - Madison Larsen**

Nominated by Erica Buckland Anderson, Director of Curriculum and Catalog, Curriculum, Academic Effectiveness, and Policy Development

Nomination:

“Madison has been an integral part of the Office of the Provost. When my office (Curriculum, Academic Effectiveness, and Policy Development, also housed in the Provost Office) requested her assistance with a project, she jumped in with both feet. This project required reviewing data that was entered into a newer system, but the data comes from as many as three different locations. Attention to detail was key in this work. Madison quickly learned the process and started working through the data points. She asked excellent questions and understood the intricacies of the process. Through her work in the last few months, this project has gained such significant momentum that I was able to adjust the completion of the first phase of the project to a date earlier than anticipated. With her help, our team has been able to work on this project along with other key projects. Madison has helped to bring a years-long project of creating this database of course information to the finish line! We are truly fortunate to have her assistance in the Provost's Suite and know that her future holds amazing things!”

# Strategic Plan Update (11:15-11:30) - Dr. Meredith Jeffers

# Pillar 1: (Student Success Launch): The progress indicates that being behind schedule is largely a matter of timing rather than a lack of progress.

# Pillar 2: Significant work has been completed, contributing to the advancement of the strategic plan's goals.

# Pillar 3: Goal 3 has seen successful implementation of an online system.

# On track with set goals, particularly noted for its work on the "blur" and the transition into college.

# Additional funding secured includes $8.4 million for a student information system and $6 million for C2 Hub construction.

# Pillar 4: Feedback through surveys is being actively sought to further refine and advance the pillar's objectives.

# Pillar 5: (Advancement): Remarkable achievement of surpassing the $75 million goal, with special recognition of Christine and her team for their efforts.

# Next Steps: The plan is to host open forums and a Spring 2024 review process.

# Strategic plan website updates are underway to share progress and action plans as a percentage. Notably, compensation studies are delayed.

# Upcoming conference on April 29th highlighted as a significant event.

# Legislative Update (11:30-11:40) - Kaycee Gerhart

# Overview:

# Announcement of a $132 million allocation for higher education with a 3% tuition cap, resulting in $9.1 million new dollars for the university.

# Additional funds secured include $8.4 million for student information system enhancements, $6 million for C2 Hub construction, and efforts to secure $50 million for a health institute tower. An additional $15 million for philanthropic purposes

# Legislative support is strong with the bill passing through two house committees and expected full passage by mid-April.

# President’s Advisory Council – Updates and Discussion (11:40-12:00) - Dr. Kelly Evans

# Overview:

* Dr. Kelly Evans provided an introduction to the history and purpose of the various councils within the institution. The focus was on ensuring that these councils align with the academic priorities, values, and mission of the institution.
* Specific councils were highlighted for their contributions and current status:
* **Built Environment and Infrastructure Council:** Aims to ensure that the institution's physical infrastructure supports its academic mission.
* **Academic Excellence and Student Success Council:** Brings together diverse perspectives for strategic planning. It is currently dormant, suggesting a pause in its activities.
* **Culture and Workplace Council:** Focuses on identifying institutional issues and developing recommendations for improvement. This initiative is in part overlapping with efforts by other groups on campus.
* An audit conducted by Dr. Goodnick and her group revealed a significant workload issue across the institution. The report suggested that introducing new committees could exacerbate this problem. Therefore, energy and resources should be redirected towards initiatives like the student success launch rather than expanding the committee structure.
* In the event of sunsetting dormant or less active councils, it was recommended that there be an acknowledgment of the contributions of these committees to preserve the history and recognize the efforts of their members.

# Shared Governance Updates (12:00 PM -12:20 PM)

# TSAC: reports a new slate of student government officials and is reviewing the budget for student groups.

* **Staff Senate:** is in an election cycle and seeks faculty attendance at shared governance meetings.
* **Council of Chairs:** reported no agenda items for the meeting.
* **Faculty Senate:** passed 3 of 5 handbook changes and is working on reorganizing committees to reduce workload.

# Key Updates (12:20-12:30)

# Jim Carpenter discussed the budget calendar and current development, aiming for a June Board meeting.

* Long Huygh announced registration is open but notes delays in FAFSA and a decrease in work-study funding.
* Jamie provided a Day of Giving update, emphasizing the goal of student involvement in new projects.

# Action Items (NEW)

# Key notes, information to share out, and action items will be distributed to Cabinet members via email within one business day of President’s Cabinet

* + - How to give feedback on specific items will be included in minutes (public feedback; can be found on cabinet website)
    - Provide Feedback through Qulatrics link