



**President's Cabinet Minutes**  
**June 17, 2020**  
**10:00-11:30am**

**I. Approval of May 20, 2020 Minutes**

Minutes were approved.

**II. President's Update (10 minutes) - Dr. Janine Davidson**

President Davidson addressed the BLM movement—sharing that her emotions have ranged from anger to humility and pride in MSU Denver. Statements from the President and Michael Benitez regarding MSU Denver's stance on the matter, have been distributed. Katia Campbell is leading up a dialogue series the President described as heartfelt and brilliant. BoT members have leaned in on this issue and have released a statement of action, with a pledge to lead and organize. The first step in this pledge will be to spend half the day on Friday (Juneteenth) reflecting and training. Dr. Davidson also encouraged others at MSU Denver do the same. The university is committed to working with the Diversity team on issues around the BLM movement.

Many people have been working contingency efforts in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Those efforts have not been easy as things are constantly changing. Only a few classes will be held on campus starting on July 6<sup>th</sup>. The footprint on campus will be very light. Efforts will be dialed up and down as necessary. Protocols will be enforced for those going back on campus—but everyone remaining vigilant will be essential. Guidelines will be issued to all in the coming weeks. The priority is to keep everyone safe and healthy. Expansions to cleaning protocols will be in place. All will be expected to partake in cleaning efforts—for example, frequently cleaning workstations and desk spaces. The only classes currently scheduled to be on campus (in person) this fall will be those in the tier one category.

Larry reiterated on some of the themes from Dr. Davidson, stating it's all about looking out for each other and much of that is common sense. He said there will be challenges and annoyances as the university embarks on this new phase, but July 6<sup>th</sup> will provide a great test-drive for the fall semester.

Katia asked, how will students know their class is in the tier one category? Will responded and shared that an email will go out to all students with further instructions and information. He also stated information will be live on the Registrar website and there is a FAQ's section for students to obtain answers. Students are also encouraged to consult their Academic Advisor or contact the Registrar office directly.

**III. Student Employment Program (20 minutes)**

- A. Liza Larsen, Controller, Mark Isenberg, Industry Navigator for Creative Industries

An overview of the work the team has been engaged in regarding student employment was presented. Highlights included:

- Formal mandatory training for supervisors on policy and procedures
- Providing formal feedback
- Improving the sense of community
- Streamlining the recruiting process
- Participating in job fairs directed toward student employees
- Institutionalizing budgeting for student employment
- Expanding work-study opportunities to off campus locations
- Expanding work-study for veterans
- Researching the possibility of paid time off (sick and admin leave)
- Looking at inclusion efforts during the job application process

#### **IV. President's Advisory Council update (20 minutes)**

A. Built Environment and Infrastructure, Amy Kern, professor, Industrial Design, Jenó Balough, professor, Environmental Engineering

The team gave an update on their progress regarding West Classroom and explained how they have pivoted to accommodate the impact of COVID-19. Some of the highlights included information and recommendations to address the following current concerns:

- Transparency between indoor and outdoor spaces
- Spaces where students can relax, study and meet
- Wi-Fi
- Bathrooms
- Physical accessibility in and out of the building
- Social distancing and hygiene
- Signage

#### **V. Parting words from the Provost (10 minutes)**

A. Vicki Golich, provost and executive vice president of Academic Affairs, Katia Campbell, president, Faculty Senate

Katia asked Vicki a few questions—giving her the opportunity to share some insights she has gained during her time working in education. Vicki shared that some advice she would give to her younger self include:

- Finding a place you feel comfortable and fit in
- Getting involved with committees to ensure a sense of community

In response to the question regarding what significant changes Vicki has seen in education over the years, Vicki shared the following:

- Defunding of higher education
- Importance and acceptance of assessment
- Technological improvements resulting in the popularity of online teaching

Vicki also shared an important lesson she has learned over the years—don't make promises you can't keep!

Some of the highlights of Vicki's career include:

- Being selected as a Fellow
- Being the Provost at MSU Denver
- Being nominated for various prestigious awards

- Receiving such kind words from colleagues when it was announced she would be leaving the Provost position

## **VI. Round Robin (20 minutes)**

A. Michael Benitez, vice president, Diversity and Inclusion- DEIC update, response to structural racism and racial violence

DEIC membership is approximately 60. A committee has been developed to offer guidance regarding work on racial violence.

B. Andrew Bonham, chair, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry- NSTR

C. Cathy Lucas, vice president of Strategy and External Affairs- Future's team update

Current advertising campaign is wrapping up. The next focus will be in the fall. There will be a complete overhaul of the webpage with a focus on the student experience. It will be a true shared governance approach.

D. David Fine, General Counsel- NSTR

An update was given on the recent employment discrimination law for the LGBTQ+ community, and the upcoming DACA decision. David shared that the team at MSU Denver has spent a great deal of time on the DACA issue, so there is vested interest on the decision the government makes (decision will be made tomorrow). Regardless of what is decided, the team at MSU Denver will continue to do whatever is possible to help DACA recipients. David believes there will likely not be a decision to extend.

E. Christine Marquez-Hudson, vice president and executive director, University Advancement and MSU Denver Foundation- Fundraising total YTD and new strategies in a virtual world

Christine reported that Advancement has exceeded its fundraising goal. Monies currently raised total \$6.6 million. Efforts continue with raising money for the Dreamer Emergency Fund--\$70,000 of \$300,000 has been raised so far.

F. Liz Hinde, dean, School of Education- Department of Nutrition grant, School of Education webinars

The Department of Nutrition grant has been funded for 3.5 million dollars over the next 5 years. The department has conducted a series of webinars that are also available on the website.

G. Braeden Weart, president, Student Government Assembly- New SGA members

H. Katia Campbell, president, Faculty Senate- Faculty Senate summer working group and Juneteenth announcement

Over 500 tuned in to the first livestream installment of the dialogue series on race. Small dialogue groups of faculty and staff members will continue discussions over the summer.

I. Vicki Golich, provost and executive vice president of Academic Affairs- NSTR

Bill thanked all those that took advantage of the cost savings options that were announced to faculty and staff. The deadline for those still interested in partaking is this Friday. Bill shared the university is currently on track to save close to 2 million dollars.

J. Larry Sampler, vice president for Administration and Finance, chief operating officer- Admin branch updates

Larry announced that there will be lots of communications coming out during the following weeks regarding the safe return to campus.

K. Rebecca Reid, president, Staff Senate- Staff Senate updates

L. Will Simpkins, vice president of Student Affairs- Enrollment and virtual student engagement

Will shared that the Department of Education will continue to fund the CAMP Program grant. The virtual student coalition continues to offer opportunities to engage students. More details can be found on the coronavirus webpage. An update was given on the enrollment numbers. Summer enrollment is currently up 8.4% (FTE), and up 7.1% in headcount. Fall numbers are currently down 11.9% (FTE) and 7.7% down in headcount.

M. John Kietzmann, interim director of Athletics- NCAA Fall plan

The NCAA will announce a decision regarding fall sports on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Todd Thurman was announced as the new Athletic Director.

N. Stacy Dvergsdal, associate vice president of Human Resources- performance management deadlines, upcoming trainings and Roadrunners Who Soar

A link was sent out for performance management training, for those who couldn't attend. Nominations will be selected next Wednesday for Roadrunners Who Soar.

O. Kevin Taylor, Chief information officer and associate vice president for Information Technology Services- NSTR

Kevin reminded everyone to pay attention to cyber security, and shared external email sources now have a banner at the top of the email.