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President’s Cabinet Minutes

March 24, 2021

10:00-11:30am

1. **Approval of February 10, 2021 Minutes**
2. **Commencement/Paint the Town Red (10:00-10:05)**- Cora Potter, Manager of University Events and Protocol
* Paint the Town Red (Assembly Athletic Complex May 3rd- May 5th. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
* Virtual Ceremony May 14th
* Students will have opportunities to:
	+ Interact with their Dean, Chair & faculty/staff members
	+ Have photos taken in their regalia during their “walk across the stage” moment.
	+ Hear their names read aloud by a proclaimer
* Event will also be livestreamed
* Receive diploma cover, honors cords, and specialty cords/stoles (Latinx, Transfer, First Gen, etc.)
* Receive their alumni gift
* Regalia pick-up and drop off
* For more information please visit the commencement website: [www.msudenver.edu/commencement](http://www.msudenver.edu/commencement)
* To volunteer to help please check the staff and faculty tab on the Commencement website.

How you can help:

* Volunteer at Paint the Town Red
* Watch and participate in virtual celebration
* Submit congratulatory messages
* Participate in department and specialty ceremonies
1. **Athletes Network (10:05-10:10)**- Todd Thurman, director of Athletics
* Athlete Hub created for athletes to have access to a wide variety of resources
* Alumni Connections- The M Club- will help student athletes find mentorship programs
* Career services will be available
* Revenue generation
1. **MSU Denver Day of Giving Update (10:10-10:20)**-Breanna Milnes, senior director of Advancement Communications and Giving, and Jamie Hurst, assistant vice president for Strategic Engagement

* Day of giving recap statistics:
* 866 donors
* 992 gifts
* $207,704 raised
* 51 projects
* 86 designations
1. **Signature Authority Policy** **(10:20-10:30)**-Beth Christensen, Contracts and Business Services Manager, and Nick Stancil, Deputy General Counsel
* Policy Advisory Council voted 32 to 1 to recommend Signature Authority Policy
* The policy documents delegation of authority from the MSU Denver Board of Trustees and President to other MSU Denver administrators to sign contracts on behalf of the University
* The policy gives VP’s signature authority up to $500,000
* Recommended policy passes cabinet, goes to President to review, President has right to sign or refuse to sign
1. **Digital Transformation of Website (10:30-10:45)**- Whei Wong Howerton, associate vice president of Marketing and Brand, and Nick Pistentis, director of Client Services
* Goal is to transform the school website to focus on student and parent engagement
* Accessibility first, mobile readiness next
* Emphasis, reliability and security
* Selected Clique Studios (based in Denver) to assist
* Some added features to home page of website include:
	+ Alert bar at the top
	+ Navigation on the side
	+ Menu options
	+ Directional details
	+ Student testimonials
* Website relaunch migration:
	+ Rolling migration (2-week cycles May-Nov)
	+ Weekly support office hours (Weds)
1. **President’s Update (10:45-11:05)**-Dr. Janine Davidson

President’s Award

* Fall 2021 return plans:
	+ Likely all staff and faculty will be vaccinated by fall 2021
	+ Likely in person classes fully available by fall
	+ MSU Denver will also continue offering online classes
* Emphasized situation is fluid and MSU Denver will follow the science on what classes can be offered on campus
* Safety is number one concern
* Joint Budget Committee (JBC) approved funding to pre-pandemic levels for upcoming year
* JBC considering buying down tuition for MSU Denver
* A lot of uncertainty regarding recovery in overall economic situation
* Emphasized equitable funding is a priority of JBC/legislature
* Shout out to Christine Marquez Hudson and Giving Day Team on their efforts
* President’s Award: President’s award goes to Front Desk Staff- Tutoring/Safe Study Spaces (student team) Kristen Gough, Katelyn Chu, Enrique Lopez, Kelly Raya and Nicholas Villalobos
1. **Round Robin (11:05-11:30)**
	1. Edward Brown, Chief of Staff- Fall 2021 planning
	2. Michael Benitez, vice president, Diversity and Inclusion- Campus Climate Survey, DIRER, HSI/MSI Cares Funds
* Campus Climate Survey is complete:
	+ 25% faculty response rate
	+ 44% staff response rate
	+ 6% student response rate
	+ 62% administrative response rate
* Latinx graduation ceremony will take place May 5th
* MSU Denver has begun collaborative effort with city of Denver in creating Denver Institute for Equity and Reconciliation
* HSI Initiatives- 1.7 million received from HER funds

* 1. Andrew Bonham, chair, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry- NSTR
	2. Cathy Lucas, vice president of Strategy and External Affairs- NSTR
	3. David Fine, General Counsel- NSTR
	4. Christine Marquez-Hudson, vice president and executive director, University Advancement and MSU Denver Foundation- Fundraising update
* Approximately 4.5 million dollars for total fundraising for the year so far (does not include day of giving gifts)
* Goal is 5.5 million dollars
* Feasibility study results will be given at board meeting on March 25th
* Work on refining campaign initiatives in terms of substance and messaging
* Will need to make some investments in staff and campaign resources
* Scholarship celebrations for spring will be virtual
	1. Liz Hinde, dean, School of Education- NSTR
	2. Braeden Weart, president, Student Government Assembly- NSTR
	3. Katia Campbell, president, Faculty Senate- Faculty workload project
* Plan being formulated for helping people to process and work through the tragedy in Boulder
* Welfare Committee is working tirelessly to develop a plan for flexible work arrangements
	1. Alfred Tatum, provost and executive vice president of Academic Affairs- NSTR
	2. Larry Sampler, vice president for Administration and Finance, chief operating officer- Admin Branch updates
* CDPHE COVID restrictions are lessening as COVID situation improves
* RTD listening session- emphasized need of public transportation to success of Auraria campus
	1. Rebecca Reid, president, Staff Senate- Staff Senate updates
* Staff Senate elections are coming up
* First call for nominations is April 5th
	1. Will Simpkins, vice president of Student Affairs – Enrollment, Student Support & SNAP Program, industry partnerships
* Enrollment for Summer 14% down from 2020
* Fall 2021 schedule will be open for students to view on March 29th
* Priority Registration for Fall 2021 April 5th
* American Rescue Plan changed SNAP eligibility for students making it more accessible to more students
	1. Todd Thurman, director of Athletics- NSTR
	2. Stacy Dvergsdal, associate vice president of Human Resources- Dean virtual interviews, Equal Pay Act, Sr. Human Resources Partner for Academic Affairs, engagement and leader results, Classified performance management cycle, Administrative performance management review, L&D performance management trainings
* Close to finalizing Equal Pay Act with legal and AG’s office
* Engagement and leadership results posted in Early Bird
* Classified performance management cycle ends on March 31st
	1. Kevin Taylor, chief information officer and associate vice president for Information Technology Services- NSTR