

**Date: July 14, 2021**

**Time: 9:30 a.m.**

**Location: Zoom**

- **Attending** Jamie Barber, Nate DeGraff, Maria Oliver-Hoyo, Paul Huffman, Lewis Owen, Alina Chertock, Heather Patisaul, Chris McGahan, Carolyn Mattingly, Debbie Carraway, Gavin Williams, John Blondin, Len Stefanski, Jamila Simpson, Nikki Price
- **Followup items for next meeting**
- **Decisions made**
- **Guest presentations**
- **Standing Items**
- **Dean's Update**
  1. **Pending enrollment increases. It will impact our numbers very seriously.**
    1. **500 student increase - Gavin and Alina most right away and then others a bit down the road and the increase is coming from engineering. It can be anywhere from 2,000 - 7,000.**
    2. **I am working on getting faculty positions to cover. We will have SCH money but that isn't a position with start ups. John and I worked on the model and it could impact us by 100,000 SCH. It won't be all at once but it could be 1,000 per year. Engineering, graduate and masters students take our courses. I'm working with the Provost on a solution. Where are we putting all of these people.**
    3. **Renovation money is being planned in the state budget near where we mainly are. If we get the full 150 mil for renovations is a complete renovation of Dabney Hall. What does that mean? Where do people go? The budget hasn't passed yet but we need to discuss to get prepared.**
    4. **Len - 7,000 students-is the university thinking they are partially online?**
      - **Alina - Our largest room is in SAS and holds 60.**
      - **Paul - I have issues with labs. We already weren't given the Lampe space. (Chris-John says we may get it)**
      - **Maria - 2-7,000. Is that for the entire university? Where is the focus for these students? Our numbers will only increase with transfer students is what I understand.**
        - **Chris - No, mainly engineering for new students. Chancellor is concerned that we need to**

produce more engineering students due to the industry demand. Other universities want to either increase their engineering programs or create new ones. The provost is wanting to remain competitive. If we are doubling our incoming students, it's a concern.

- Chris - There is a problem with students coming in. They need to accept less because we are becoming more popular. More students were accepted than usual. Fall we went from 4800 to 5300 and that was our increase. I didn't think they were going to increase the enrollment.
- Nate - Space - When space is considered with renovations is remote work increasing and using those spaces considered?
  - Chris - No. The Chancellor wants everyone to return to campus with exceptions. They aren't considering this. I will see if John has heard anything.
  - Debbie - Since we have demonstrated the ability to remote work, this should be considered.
  - Len - In the last 4 years here. CHASS and Sciences joint faculty meeting talked about sharing workspaces. There would be landing spaces for faculty with office hours and no permanent offices.
    - Paul - Physics faculty were floored by that. Staff is a smaller group of people so that really won't make a difference.
    - Debbie - Staff would probably consider.
    - Len - We may have to work the hybrid to attract quality applicants for staff.
- Chris - We need to start thinking about how to handle these increases and we will be in discussion as the budget moves through. At the ALM, they talked about raises. 3 levels of approval. 1.5% increase per year for staff with one time bonuses. 5% first year 2 ½% second year is still on the table. Not sure where it will land. We will know more in the coming months. Think about how your budgets will be impacted. Can we figure out how many credit hours for non-required courses for engineering students. I don't think that the higher level understands our impacts. Chancellor wanted 70% face to face but really didn't understand our space limitations with the amount of students per class.
  - Len - 1 stats course is required for engineering

- b. Maria - Office of admission is having issues with the high quality of students especially with Biological Sciences and available spaces. Now if engineering enrollment increases then it will make a further impact. We need to look at enrollment and capacity for departments and then bring up to the Provost and Chancellor about how we can't even accommodate our own students and then the increase from engineering. Ex: 1 student with everything outstanding and was put on the waitlist.
- c. Chris - DH's. Did you find out about the big increase? How do you find out about enrollment and do you have input?

.Paul - we are told how many students we have about mid-summer. The college gives a target number of students overall without a departmental breakdown.

i.Maria - You are correct. The university runs the numbers with us and it is the same historically. If the planned acceptances are far off with the historical numbers. There are no discussions on where these numbers go.

ii.Len - Number of students in statistics has been increasing a lot over the last 5 years.

iii.Lewis - Transfers from first years is where most of our numbers come from. I'm surprised that geology isn't required. We could accommodate more students this way.

d. Alina - I am starting to receive emails about face coverings for the fall and one of the questions will be having online office hours and students to be required to get tested if they are not vaccinated. It says we can't ask students to wear a mask if attending office hours.

e. Nikki - The faculty member can choose to wear a mask to protect themselves.

f. Len - The experts are saying wearing masks is protecting others. N95 protects the wearer.

g. Debbie - NCDHHS is up to 5% now. The main one is DELTA.

h. [REDACTED]

i. Nikki - Questions are being sent to Nate and the Dean. Are they not answered with the university information or a disagreement?

.Alina - A faculty member wants to require face masks for in person office hours. Will students complain and the faculty be forced to see students without a mask.

- Nikki - We can't require them to wear masks.
- Chris - Faculty members can continue office hours online if they want and I don't know what kind of push back that will happen.
- Gavin - More students might like online office hours. If you have office hours in a faculty office or meeting room does it become an instructional space? Then a mask is required.

- Alina - There is usually more than 1 student in a room.
- Lewis - Are we requiring students to be tested in the fall? Is there any info on that? We could ask all students to be a part of the surveillance and can opt out if vaccinated. [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wYIQkC5II2K--vczvixKoZVC\\_LHs7STNmWBk0yZpuEI/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wYIQkC5II2K--vczvixKoZVC_LHs7STNmWBk0yZpuEI/edit?usp=sharing)
  - Chris - Julie and Amy to the next meeting?
- Carolyn - Lab groups. If everyone has voluntarily offered up that they are all vaccinated do they still need to wear masks?
  - Heather - They are required but we have found that we have not. There are people getting upset and confused with the mandates. There is already animosity of the protection of labs and instructional spaces.
- Lewis - Who makes these decisions? BOT or Chancellor? Lack of transparency. Amy Orders doesn't make the decisions but she has to handle the issues.
- Chris - Julie is making some of the decisions but is it only pieces?
- Nikki - I think it comes from the Governor's executive order, system (BOG) office makes a decision and then the EMMS creates it from there.
- Nate - UG and Grad students living on campus not vaccinated are supposed to test.
- Chris - Should we meet next week and get Amy and Julie to come to answer our questions? Urgent request from the Dean. Google Doc to collect the questions and to send and have answers.
- Paul - Are we the only large section classes?
  - Chris - No but we do have the most because of our class and lab classes.

j. Len - Faculty and staff are not allowed to ask if someone is vaccinated.

.Debbie - We are discouraged but not prohibited.

i.Nikki - We are not allowed to ask. It is in the Q&A [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wYIQkC5II2K--vczvixKoZVC\\_LHs7STNmWBk0yZpuEI/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wYIQkC5II2K--vczvixKoZVC_LHs7STNmWBk0yZpuEI/edit?usp=sharing)

ii.Len - There was a DH meeting with Katharine Stewart and she said it isn't a HIPPA violation. It was before the new information came out.

- iii. Nikki - What came out June 1, 2021 should be followed. In general, when someone walks into spaces and meetings if they are vaccinated. If we are in a room and 2 members are in the room, do not call out someone for wearing masks. It is just general etiquette to not alienate or "mask shame" others.
- iv. Chris - If you ask someone, they may not tell the truth. What do we gain from asking?
- v. Nikki - From an HR standpoint, does a conflict happen when we ask?
- vi. Lewis - We need to go back to the surveillance program. I think we would like a reassurance that we are going to continue to test.
- vii. Len - Staff member voluntarily that they are not vaccinated. When we had a meeting it was asked if we would have in person with masks or online. Can we ask if we can change the meeting?
- Nikki - You can. It is all in how you approach it.
- viii. Lewis - Are we going to hold meetings in person in the coming weeks. In August, we are planning on being in person in 201 BOM and if someone doesn't want to attend or traveling or can't attend for whatever reason, they can attend by zoom. Next week will still be a zoom and we will decide later for the in person in August.
- ix. Debbie - Hybrid meeting best practices. We will cover this at a later meeting. It needs to have a strong moderator.
- x. Paul - I have had a hybrid meeting. The zoom participants have difficulty engaging. There are different dynamics.
- xi. Nate - Meetings every 2 weeks. Some people may not feel comfortable being in person. Can we do 1 meeting zoom and then 1 meeting hybrid?
- xii. Len - What about Hepa filter air purifiers in meeting rooms?
- xiii. Chris - We will try to do it next Wednesday if we can get Julie or Amy to attend. We may be meeting a bit more often as we approach the Fall semester. Add agenda items to the rolling agenda and send to Jamie. With the students coming back, it is this group that is mostly impacted. DH's look at enrollment numbers and changes from last year and bring it to the next meeting. Classes and sections and SCH your going to have and the number of freshman majors coming in.
- k. Maria - The enrollment numbers for engineering we can figure that out for the last few years and bring it to the next meeting.
- l. Alina - The number increase this year is problematic and Molly sent an email to Chris about this. We may have to cancel classes because we can't cover them. It's money, positions, space and the hiring process. We have 10,000 per semester and a large number of classes are being taught by TA's because we don't have faculty. We have 40 TA's teaching about 200 students.
- m. Nikki - Lecturer pool can be used for multiple hires but we need position numbers. Background check team has many vacancies and they are changing vendors, so it is really slow.

n. **Maria - Alina, your idea of closing sections. We did that in Chemistry for years. It is irresponsible to continue without the appropriate resources.**