

PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING
May 4, 2021
MINUTES

CALLED TO ORDER

9:05 a.m.

ADJOURNED

10:58 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Austin; Kevin Ball; Tamara Clunis; Cheryl Jones; Russell Lowery-Hart; Chris Sharp; Denese Skinner; Joe Bill Sherrod; Mark White

MEMBERS ABSENT

Cara Crowley

OTHERS PRESENT

Joy Brenneman, Chris George

DISCUSSION:

1. ESPORTS	Chris George
<p>Cabinet congratulated Chris George on the Esports undefeated season and national championship. Mr. George said that the Fall and Spring seasons were fantastic with more than 100 students signing up for both competitive and casual play. Many wanted to be part of a community again and used the Esports room with social distancing and masks. AC's Overwatch Team has done well. They were undefeated in the Fall but lost in the championship match. In the Spring, they were again undefeated until the championship match where they lost one game but won the championship 3 to 1. AC's Esports team competes in Division B of the GG League for casual players that includes 10 to 12 teams, some from universities. Games take place on Thursdays and students can play from the Esports lab or at home. There are professional commentators for some matches and AC has been featured 3 or 4 times this year. AC's team is gaining recognition and more students are interested. There have been over 300 unique visits to the lab since January. The high schools are starting programs as well. WTAMU does not have an Overwatch team but does have a strong Rocket League.</p> <p>Mr. George stated that the program currently has the necessary resources but expects a greater need as the program grows. There is one student worker helping at this time. He noted that the program at OSU has 40 employees including coaches, IT staff, streamers, etc. The AC team has jerseys with their names on them. Participants get to know others from across the nation and sportsmanship in this sport is "top notch." He thanked Cabinet for their support</p>	
<p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student Affairs is responsible for the long-range growth.• Budget should grow each year as the program grows and collaborative space needs to be located.• Asked Mr. George to plan a tournament and host it on campus to test out a possible space.	
2. GROUNDS & CONSTRUCTION – ASPEN ANNOUNCEMENT	Lowery-Hart
<p>Dr. Lowery-Hart discussed the Aspen Announcement on May 18th. Boxed lunches and cookies will be provided. He will ask the college to close down at 11:30 and treat this like a general</p>	

assembly. The announcement is scheduled from 12:00 to 1:00. Mayor Ginger Nelson will welcome everyone and Dr. Lowery-Hart will close the meeting.

The event will be held on the Oeschger Mall and Mr. Sharp and the Physical Plant will ensure that there is no construction or mowing happening during the event and that the grounds look clean and sharp. 150 invitations have been sent to the community. Faculty will be gone for the summer but staff are required to attend, including Dumas and Hereford employees.

Dr. Lowery-Hart also noted that graduation will be at Hodgetown and will look different than previous commencements due to this location. The contingency plan in case of inclement weather would be to move the ceremony to Saturday and will be decided 24 hours in advance.

Other dates mentioned were June Jazz beginning June 1 and Chalk It Up on the last Saturday of July.

Action Items:

- None

3. QEP

Clunis

Dr. Clunis discussed the QEP topic proposal – Smart Start to Finish. The QEP must demonstrate that it has broad institutional engagement including faculty, staff, students, and regents. All must be able to explain it if asked by a SACS representative when they are on campus for a site visit. The report is due 6 weeks before they come in September 2022. Much research has been done, and this project is in line with AC goals and should be successful. The document is being finalized.

Dr. Clunis asked for Cabinet feedback. It was suggested that the plan could have some better framing to identify the gaps and proposed solutions. She will work on that and bring back to Cabinet for another review.

The most substantial investment in the QEP will be a comprehensive marketing plan to communicate the QEP, mostly internally but some to the community as well. The college is still not at the transfer and equity rates needed and will need to build broad-based involvement in those areas. The QEP will also be discussed at general assembly meetings prior to the SACS visit. Next year's budget will need to include funds for SACS. Amy Pifer will be the QEP lead for AC.

Action Items:

- Include the QEP topic at the next SACS update during a future Status Update.

4. OTHER

Cabinet

Mr. Austin discussed the IT conversion to SQL. The projected date for the switchover will be June 18. IT will work over the weekend and be ready to test on Monday. It is possible that employees will not be able to work in Colleague on that day and supervisors should have plans for other work options for their employees if that happens.

Ms. Skinner asked if the new furniture in the Ware could be moved for events. The answer is yes.

Dr. Clunis noted that the Innovation Outpost is launching their CEO campaign, Greater Amarillo 2025. Todd McLees will be assisting in that and she encouraged Cabinet members to participate in at least one session.

Dr. Clunis also reported that Blackboard is migrating to Blackboard Ultra the week after Summer 2 when there are no classes. It is hoped that this will solve some of the current issues with Blackboard.

Dr. Lowery-Hart noted that he is meeting with community members on Monday to begin discussion on ways to eradicate poverty in the area.

Mr. White reported that the search for a baseball head coach is ongoing.

Action Items:

- None