



April 20, 2021

1. Cabinet reviewed and commented on the following information items:
  - a. [Facilities Management and Planning Updates](#) were reviewed. It's a good list of project updates that are connected to the fact that we are going to go out for the next infusion of Measure GO money. Facilities Planning and Management staff are also looking to our next list of projects and which can be completed with the funding left.
  - b. An article from Public Policy Institute of California, [Just the Facts: Immigrants in California](#), highlights a national discussion about the value of immigrants. The article details that California has more immigrants than any other state and, while the total number has leveled off, the majority of recent arrivals are from Asia. Most immigrants are documented, bilingual, and have varying levels of education. It is important to remember that we are a nation of immigrants and it is not a bipartisan issue. The actions that Ronald Reagan took during his administration set the path for immigration in this country. One of his goals was to establish a path to citizenship. There have been some recent news stories on former President George W. Bush and his support of immigration. Cabinet is hopeful that all of this discussion gets us to see immigration is the foundation on which this country has been built.
  - c. An article from the New York Times, [J&J vaccine and blood clots: What you need to know](#), provides information on the cause for the recent pausing of the J&J vaccine, and what regulators are doing to look into the possible causal relationship between blood clots and the J&J vaccine.
  - d. Another round of good news in the [LA County Department of Public Health Colleges and Universities Telebriefing!](#) LA County reports progress on our metrics, with a COVID-19 test positivity rate below 1.5%, with the County administering an average of 500,000 vaccination doses a week. A new Health Officer Order will be issued effective 4/14/2021, which will provide some distinction based on vaccination status. This is good for Mt. SAC and our efforts to return to campus this Fall.
  - e. Mt. SAC's Strong Workforce Program has submitted a recommendation for the [SWP Spring 2021 Spend Down Equipment Applications](#). The recommendations were approved.
  - f. Human Resources is continuing their good work addressing [vaccination verification and accommodation requests](#). They report that over 600 employees have submitted the [COVID-19 Vaccine Employee Response Form](#), with about 6.5% requesting exemptions or accommodations.
  - g. The [Vacant Positions Under Active Search Log](#) was reviewed.
  - h. Trustee Manuel Baca is connected with the [UC Davis School of Education Wheelhouse](#) and provided some research reports:
    - [Financial Aid for California Community College Students](#) is an analysis of financial aid receipt in the California community colleges. This is a very powerful research piece with a good message that financial aid is directly related to students' success rates. The data is displayed well and this is important to share. It is encouraging to see the data analyzed and presented so effectively and to deliver such a strong positive of the message about the effectiveness of student financial aid.
    - [Course Closed – Using Waitlists to Study the Effects of Course Shutouts on Community College Students](#) identifies the concern about shutting students out due to reduced course availability. There is fervent discussion in the system about whether the State is going to fund the reengagement of students as we come out of the pandemic-fueled economic downturn.

2. The Senate Democratic Caucus published [Build Back Boldly Senate Democrats Budget Priorities for 2021-22 and Beyond](#). The concern is that there is a commitment for flexible money coming, but it is not translated into COLA, which is what Mt. SAC needs most. These priorities include considerations of one-time money buying down STRS and PERS district contributions. While one time, it is a good solution of which community colleges are supportive—as long as the monies used are outside of Proposition 98 funding. The original strategy for PERS and STRS was to put buckets of state money to reduce the overall debt itself which would reduce the employer contribution percentage. However, that is such a huge debt. As a political strategy, putting that much money and getting a small return in reduction of costs to K-12 and community colleges is not good political capital.
3. College leaders have been meeting with State legislators during Advocacy Week and working on earmark proposals in the [Mt. SAC Positions on Legislation April 2021](#). Because Congress is allowing earmarks, we are working through our lobbyist, Nossaman LLC, and have three proposals submitted for the possibility of earmark funding. The discussions are going well and will be reported when we have more information.
4. [Assembly Bill 1111](#) (Berman) calls for a common course numbering system for postsecondary education. This Bill wants to make the [California ID system](#) the basis for numbering courses required for the Associate Degree for Transfer. It is a good idea, but it is a heavy lift as California higher ed has never been successful other than a secondary numbering system. The immediate proposal is not for a system for all courses, only transfer courses. The [UC Transfer Preparation Pathways](#) system is getting better (see [the Chemistry TPP Course List](#)), but it is primarily used for course alignment between UCs, not community colleges. Community colleges do have campus-to-campus articulation agreements with UCs, but not based on the Transfer Preparation Pathway system yet.
5. An Academic Senate Workgroup provided [revision recommendations](#) for BP/AP 3900 Freedom of Expression. Their recommendations are to update both to include language from colleges that have had recent updates due to lawsuits. This recommendation will need some work.
6. The Chancellor's Office General Counsel provided an update on [Oakley v. DeVos Litigation Update & Student Eligibility for HEERF II and III](#). This refers to the lawsuit by the Chancellor's Office that resulted in an injunction barring the Trump administration's limitations on funding for the CARES Act. The update suggests that the court may extend this injunction to Federal student aid under HEERF II and HEERF III, but that outcome is only pending and does not allow Mt. SAC to broaden the students receiving that aid.
7. As part of the continued return to campus, a marketing initiative is beginning that "[Mt. SAC is Back](#)." This initiative is funded by CARES and will be ongoing as we transition to campus. Approval has been provided for employee lanyards and pins and a postcard campaign to students who were lost during the pandemic. Yen is working on establishing a group to work on this initiative that is representative from the areas on campus. Yen also noted that we are currently working on a 30-second commercial in-house.
8. The Commencement Planning team is continuing work on an in-person Commencement for June 11, 2021. A [preliminary diagram](#) with stage has been presented that will accommodate as many as 400 faculty and 1000 students, with family and friends as spectators based on two tickets per graduate.
9. Cabinet approved the following positions to proceed with recruitment:
  - Administrative Specialist III – High School Outreach (Promotion of Amanda James, previously frozen). Audrey to process the [Request to Fill](#).
  - Student Services Program Specialist II (New, previously frozen). Audrey to process the [Request to Fill](#).

- Student Services Outreach Specialist – High School Outreach (Promotion of Melissa Candell, previously frozen). Audrey to process the [Request to Fill](#).
  - Financial Aid Specialist (Retirement of Jessie Checkcinco, previously frozen). Audrey to process the [Request to Fill](#).
  - Temporary Special Project Administrator – Reconnect and Engagement (New). This position will be funded out of CARES Act funds for year one. Audrey to process the [Request to Fill](#).
10. Cabinet was joined by Lianne Greenlee, Director of Professional and Organizational Development, and Lisa Rodriguez, Assistant Director of Professional and Organizational Development, for a [Title V update](#). Highlights:
- There has been updated progress of the 32 projects organized under 7 goals.
  - The CORA certificates continue to be popular with 4 cohorts per year. There have been 41 Winter completions and 71 currently signed up for orientations later this month.
  - The Magic Mountie Podcast, Equity Demystified, is starting which is a student led podcast series on equity and social justice topics called “El Pulso.”
  - The Power of Our Data Conference was on April 16.
  - Classified and Managers have had the opportunity to participate in 18 various DEI sessions with 356 attendees.
  - There is work on creating a survey for faculty and students to help faculty and students to explore cultural awareness through self-development activities, gathering research on the institution, and what it means to be Latinx and HSI.
  - The Mountie Money Management Center launched in March. The focus is personal money management for students.
  - Dr. Gina Ann Garcia presented at Spring Flex and met with Student Ambassadors on topics related to improving cultural competence and cross-cultural dialogue.
11. Cabinet approved the [Request to Fill Log](#) for the following positions:
- [Administrative Specialist II \(Technology & Health\)](#)
  - [Associate Dean, Student Engagement](#)
  - [ESL Outreach Specialist](#)
  - [Mental Health Clinician](#)
12. Morris reported:
- There have been revisions to AP 7400 based on PAC recommendations to include the option of itemized receipt reimbursement.
13. Abe reported:
- HR has been processing the return to campus vaccination forms with over 600 employees completing their vaccination. In about 6% of the forms employees have requested an exemption or accommodation.
  - He has been working on a couple of Policies and Procedures that will come for future Cabinet discussion.
14. Audrey reported:
- She is working on management positions for El Centro and Black/African American Centers.
  - The USC Equity Alliance e-Convenings are continuing. Jaime has put together a very extensive report from the previous convenings. They are dividing the notes into recommendations or strategies.
  - Black Student Success Week is scheduled from April 26-30 with different topics presented every day.
  - The Minority Male Initiative is at a point where it is going to need permanent staff. There have been different people leading, but there is a need for consistent leadership.

15. Irene reported:

- The Director, Public Safety Programs would like to repost and extend the position as there were only two qualified candidates. Irene to have a conversation to see if the two candidates are viable.
- Dual Enrollment will be bringing forward a new Project Specialist.
- Late start added lots of classes; has been a successful strategy.

16. Items for future agendas (items for the next Cabinet meeting are shown in BOLD)

- a. Multiple Measures Placement Workgroup (George, and Team, TBD)
- b. Student Centered Funding Formula—Continued Follow Up
  1. Noncredit Support of SCFF & Multiple Measures (**Madelyn, Tami, and Shannon, 4/27**)
  2. EAB Navigate Schedule Building & Data Analytics (Student Support Workgroup—Francisco, 6/22)
- c. Zoom recording/digital retention (Abe and Workgroup, 5/4)
- d. Employee ID badge process (Abe, 5/4)
- e. AB30 (Dual Enrollment, A&R, and IT, 5/18)

17. Quarterly Reports to Cabinet

- a. Develop Budget Reports and Monitoring Protocols for Cost Center Managers (Morris and Doug, 6/15)
- b. Limiting Short-term Hourly and Professional Experts and Managing Overtime (Abe and Alexis, 6/15)
- c. Emergency Response Plan Quarterly Report (Duetta, 7/13)
- d. Room Utilization/Capacity-Load Ratio Project (Gary, Mika, and Kevin, 6/15)
- e. Faculty Position Control Quarterly Report (Rosa, 5/11)
- f. Construction Project/Scheduled Maintenance Quarterly Report (Gary, 6/1)
- g. IT Projects Quarterly Report (Anthony, 6/8)
- h. Grants Quarterly Update (Adrienne, 7/13)
- i. Dual Enrollment at Local High Schools Quarterly Report (Michelle, Joel, Marlyn, and Lina, 5/25)
- j. International Student Quarterly Report (George, 6/22)
- k. Academic Support Coordination Project Quarterly Report (Madelyn and Meghan, 5/4)
- l. Title V Quarterly Report (Lianne and Lisa, 7/20)
- m. Guided Pathways Reporting (**Michelle, Shiloh, and Sarah, 4/27**)