

President's Cabinet Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2021

1. Student Guest: Mizea McDowell was valedictorian at Harriman High and came to Roane State after going to UT because of the expense. He is a Business Administration major and wants to pursue a career in law with a focus on contracts and management. He is currently serving as a work study student for Tamra Oliver in the Bursar's Office. He loves the kindness and hospitality of everyone at Roane State. Mizea said he found the transition to online learning a challenge but mentioned that Dr. Sylvia Pastor used break out rooms so students could get to know each other. In the area of improvement possibilities, he said we need to "punch up" our sporting events for school spirit and thought bringing back intramurals would be great. He said that more students would be incentivized to come to school if they knew a job was guaranteed at completion.
2. Roane to Tech Collaboration: Robin Townson has been leading our partnership discussions with TTU for this new dual admission project. Respective counterparts in various areas from both schools have participated. For example, Public Relations from both schools worked on the project logo. Based on this partnership, all RSCC grads will have guaranteed admission to TTU. Through a special Golden Raider program, students in five select majors can be part of a cohort for dual admissions requiring only one transcript. These students will be jointly advised based on curriculum guides that outline two years at RSCC and two years at TTU, with guaranteed 60 for 60 credit acceptance. Students will also be invited for special events at Tech. As the project progresses, cohorts for additional majors will be added.
3. HEERF Update: We will receive \$12million in HEERF 3 with additional dollars for students. Currently we have not received the script from TBR with disbursement guidelines. We will try to use some of these dollars to wipe clean the balance that some students have which is preventing them from registering. We will also be purchasing some air purification machines for all shared areas
4. State Audit: We had some prior findings in Accounts Receivable that we have made great strides in clearing up; however, because of the length of time for some of these collections it has been difficult to clear them all, especially those from 3rd parties with whom we are trying to keep relationships intact. The Foundation is in a similar situation. The auditor directly involved in our audits wanted to clear us, but the state did not agree. As a result we will likely have a repeat finding.
5. The SCORE report (Higher Education by the Numbers) shows RSCC with these notable statistics: Roane State served the highest percentage of Pell-eligible students of any community college in East Tennessee. Roane State had the largest growth in Hispanic student persistence of any community college. Roane State had the highest percentage of students overall earning 24 or more credits in year one of any community college. Roane State had the highest Black student completion rate of any community college.
6. Enrollment: Jamie Stringer reported that Lisa Steffensen's interns are reaching out to students who have applied but not registered. We are experiencing some greater competition from the TCATs. We need to expand our program of sending success RSCC students to their respective high schools to help recruit; maybe add graduates and/or business people from the respective communities.

7. THEC Funding Formula Outcomes: We have been given the opportunity to propose new weights for the various outcomes categories. Based on today's discussion we have proposed the following rank order: Associates Degrees, Job Placements, Dual Enrollment, Transfer Activity, Student Progression, Workforce Training, Awards per FTE, Short-Term Certificates, Long-Term Certificates. It is not clear whether THEC will permit institutions to adopt their new weight in total or whether there will still be some categories that are weighted consistently across all community college.
8. Compensation: Marsha Mathews will send out an email to employees about the qualifications to receive the 2%/2% salary increase approved by the General Assembly.