

President's Cabinet Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2022

1. Student Guest: Abby Pelley is finishing her first year in General Studies at Roane State with a 4.0 GPA. She is leaning toward majoring in accounting and plans to transfer to Tusculum. All three of her siblings attended Roane State. Abby was home-schooled for all 12 years, so she is excited to be in a college environment. She has owned her own business selling hair accessories since she was 16 and is able to apply what she is learning in her business classes. Teresa Duncan plans to connect her to Mike Eppler, the director of the WORC grant, so she can have access to a variety of free business consultation services.
2. Fall Schedule Update: The "room shuffle" has started to move forward with raising the class size caps without COVID restrictions. Jamie Stringer pointed out that raising gas prices are still driving web enrollment.
3. TBR "Career in a Year": Because TBR is doing a lot of messaging for Career in a Year, Dr Whaley asked Robin Townson to give Cabinet the latest Department of Education rules governing Certificates of one year or less. The Department has made changes to include one semester programs; however, they must be at least 16 credits and meet for 15 weeks in order to be eligible for federal aid. (This makes Roane State's programs ineligible in the summer term, although students can still get Promise or Reconnect money.) Other RSCC Certificate programs are eligible and if embedded in an Associate degree program, students can continue their studies, although they must be monitored for SAP every semester. Robin reminded everyone that any new programs need 90 days for DOE approval.
4. Knox County Facility Update: Barber McMurray is working to revise the parking lot design to accommodate for 600 spots. Two potential design drafts are being considered. Roane State prefers the design that includes more windows and a central "park-like" area for students to have lunch with room for food trucks. Tamsin Miller noted that Barber McMurray indicated that it would cost \$250,000 to build out the infrastructure for a future 4th story. Scott Niermann reported that the Foundation Board approved a three-year pledge period and can begin accepting gifts July 1.
5. Cumberland County Facility Update: The RFP for construction will be out this month; the state building commission has all the necessary documents. Holly Hanson will be monitoring donation "asks" of both the county and the city. Scott Niermann noted that an overall case statement for donation opportunities, including equipment, needs to be developed.
6. Fentress County Facility Update: The RFP for design should be out by July 1. Marsha Mathews will be working with the county on the property transfer. Dr. Whaley asked that Tinisha Key be updated on progress so she can field any community questions.
7. Raider Corps: Dr. Whaley noted that visitors to Roane State, especially legislators, enjoy interacting with students. He reminded Cabinet of the Raider Corps students who were given small scholarships to serve as college ambassadors. Jamie Stringer suggested that we consider reinstating the SAS (Student Academic Service) scholarships instead and give recipients these ambassador duties. These were \$1,000 scholarships awarded to the top students from area high schools. Previous to TN Promise, TBR universities

would honor these and award follow-on scholarships for the second two years. It would be worth checking to see what universities would honor these scholarships if we were to reinstate them.