

President's Report

February 2021

Strategic Plan

Included in this month's agenda for board consideration of the proposed strategic goals that will anchor our 2021-2026 Strategic Plan. These goals will provide the direction to craft specific and measurable objectives that will guide our instructional units and service departments in accomplishing our mission.

Covid-19

Covid impact is trending downward from the highs experienced during the month of January. Our faculty and staff are among those that are receiving covid vaccinations and expect with the vaccinations gaining momentum that our employees will continue receiving the vaccine.

Del Rio Roofs

We have received our third-party assessment of the damages and we have a significant difference between cost estimated to repair the roofs and the amount of the claim our insurance carrier proposed. We are working on the next step.

Summer & Fall 2021 Plans

I have held meetings with our staff and faculty advising them of our perspective going forward. In order to frame our conversation an overview of our current covid environment and vaccination role out was provided as a foundation to what we expect by summer. It is our expectation that covid cases and hospitalizations will continue to trend downward. We also expect that vaccinations continue to gain momentum in all of our communities. With the caveat that these trends continue and no additional circumstances arise our plans are as follows:

Day Care will reopen in April with limited capacity

Cafeteria will reopen in April with limited capacity

Staff will return to campus on a rotating schedule towards the end of spring

Summer 1 & 2 semester will have 20% - 40% of our courses in face-to-face format

Dorms open for summer in a limited capacity

Fall 2021 – have 50% - 70% of our courses in face-to-face format

Staff back on campus in full capacity by August

Faculty back on campus in full capacity by Fall convocation week

We have made these recommendations in an effort to provide sufficient time for our teams to implement the appropriate protocols and mitigation efforts to support our return to campus.

Cares Funding

We are still waiting for official rules to be published on what the Cares funding will apply towards. However, we do have general guidelines on the intent of the funds. We have targeted our funds to address the following areas:

- Emergency Student Aid
- Replace lost revenue (dorms, cafeteria, daycare, tuition and fee)
- Upgrade technology infrastructure to handle additional network traffic of remote learning (servers, switches, Wi-Fi access points, back-up generator, cabling, etc.)
- Invest in Smart room technology – build capacity to accommodate face-to-face instructions in combination with Zoom (remote lectures), capacity for remote tutoring, advising, and student engagement
- Continue with Covid mitigation expenditures (masks, sanitation misters, personal protective equipment, HVAC ventilation modifications, air purifiers)
- This is not an all-inclusive list but hits the major categories for the utilization of Cares funding.

Upcoming Meeting/Events

2/18	February Board Meeting
2/18	FSB Board Meeting
2/23	UMH Board Meeting
2/24	MRGDC Board Meeting
2/24	Senate Finance Committee Hearing – Article 3
3/1	TACC Legislative Committee Meeting
3/15	TACC Legislative Committee Meeting
3/15-19	Spring Break
3/23	UMH Board Meeting
3/25	March Board Meeting (proposed date change)
3/29	TACC Legislative Committee Meeting