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Student Leadership (All UP/Student Leaders) Roundtable 6/3/20 2:00-3:30PM

Damon Simms: Return to Campus Task Force Broken Up
(Co-Chaired by Damon Sims)

1. Structural & Academics
2. Social Distancing (Beth Seymour, Chair of Faculty Senate from Abington)

Daniel Shaha (Chair of Compliance and Enforcement)

Damon: I will turn it over to Beth Seymour

Beth: Here is what we have been doing:

- Barry Bram (UPUA Adviser) with me
- Taking medical advice to mitigate transmission
- Didn't focus on structural spaces because other committee is doing it
- Debate going how "apart" we have to be

Beth: Here is what we may expect:

1. Wearing a mask in situations
2. Assigned Seating
3. Time limit for grouped situations

Eric Bilbrough (Position): Who would be doing the testing?

Answer: Not sure yet

Daniel: Here is what we have been doing:

1. Engage in sessions with what the expectations are with faculty & students
2. Establish normal and responsible behaviors to be normalized
3. Escalating Conduct Response for those that do not engage in those behaviors
4. Students that test positive must self-isolate

Hibah Akbar (CCSG President): How would these procedures reflect Commonwealth Campuses?

Answer(Beth): Vary across the Commonwealth and depends on local law structure. The structure will be specified over the summer.

Alex Zhao (GPSA President): The University won't be able to mitigate off-campus parties and social events which lead to a greater spread or shutdown of University.

-Aakash and Hibah had to Leave Early-

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Student Executives (Presidents Only) Roundtable 6/5/20 1:15PM-2:23PM

Hibah Akbar: Several Commonwealth Campuses expressed to me that they would prefer returning.

Damon: Thank you for the update, Hibah.

Alex Zhao: How does the University plan on how to change the academic calender? I saw that it said two seven week sessions.

Damon: Where did you see that? I think we will have a meeting on that next week, it does not answer if it will be remote or in person because that is June 15th decision. We will stick with academic calender but in-person experience may end November 20th and go into remote mode after Thanksgiving.

Lexy: How do you feel that admissions will change and affect the University?

Damon: 450 million at most, 80 million at least, but that is only an approximate. Many students, we are projecting, may be comfortable with returning, many will not. The economic impact is quite dramatic. We've been asked to cut 3% from our budget, and more to budget cuts. More than 15% can lead to laying individuals off. It may adversely affect programs if we are not careful. The Commonwealth Campuses may do better.

Zach: What are the requirements to expect for students to return to campuses?

Damon: The question is, do we have the capacity to [ensure requirements.] We have talked about maybe students testing before they come, but then they could become infected afterwards. We also thought of testing everyone all the time, but then that is a capacity issue. We are trying to ensure contact tracing. We also want to push for symptomatic and asymptomatic testing. We're not promising anything.

Zach: Thanks. What about faculty & staff? Are you confident that we will receive tests?

Damon: I'm confident that eventually we will, the question is, when? I think we will but we're not sure when.

Alex: What is the MINIMUM amount of testing that Penn State would not want to fall below?

Damon: That depends on the Governor's plan on how to reopen. I believe he wants systematic testing, thus the ability to test close-contact students will surveillance testing. In some places, they are testing sewage. Maybe can we isolate sewage in individual residential halls, thus if numbers rise in that hall, we can troubleshoot the possibility of contraction from students in that particular model.

Alex: Based on PPE and face coverings, does Penn State have plans to make sure there is an adequate supply of PPE for those who cannot afford it.

Damon: We want to insist PPE, and have University established standards on distancing, time restraints with larger groups for large amounts of times, and recommendations for private gatherings on residential settings.

Julia: How about hand sanitizer stations?

Damon: Yes, not in every office, but the University wants to implement that and wipes as well in classroom and hall spaces.

Hibah: Are there any plans the University has for ensuring there are no disparities within the Commonwealth Campuses?

Damon: Yes. The resources we are developing, to be clear, are for the entire University, not just Commonwealth Campuses that will be centrally funded. The 500,000 masks, for example, are centrally funded by the University, not by individual funding. There will be differences, but not because the University plans on funding unequally.

Hibah: (For Harrisburg's question ins GroupMe) What are some of the ways the University plans on enforcing PPE and safety health measures?

Damon: We have a sub work group titled "Compliance and Work Agreement." We are not going to have police or monitors stationed around. We are hoping to instead, have peer influence and faculty encouraged. We do not want to rely on expulsion and instead want to rely on informal matters. If students are still in denance, we may take disciplinary action on the Clause "Failure to Comply" with students that may completely reject to defiantly enact reasonable health procedures. That organization or group of students could find itself (we don't prefer) the University wants to use Penn State policy expectations.

Lexy: We've been talking about redesigning classrooms and changing spaces. I know convocation is an area of importance. What are possibilities of convocation being in the Bryan Jordan Center or Beaver stadium?

Damon: Great idea, but we can't use BJC, but we could use Beaver stadium to spread everyone out. We have to adopt the attitude to do the best instead of doing nothing at all, but I have no further insight, thanks for the great idea of that.

Damon: Do these sessions help? How are you informing your consistency?

Hibah: Absolutely. We have been informing via the official informal GroupMe.

Zach: We really appreciate it, Damon.

Hibah: Will we be having further discussions on the recent injustices happening in the current news? I believe we should.

Damon: Absolutely. We will continue to discuss them in the next few meetings. The incidents are being evaluated with Student of Conduct. They are not being discussed yet, but I have scheduled conversations with students involved. The young woman photographed with a swastika on her shoulder. I spoke with her and told her it was wildly inconsistent with Penn State values. She explained her narrative. She was spoken about how her actions are being responded and perceived. We expect to create a welcoming and inclusive environment and that she needs to be a part of that. Turns out the photograph was taken when she was five years old. She was on a beach house. She said "This is stupid. I am deeply regretful. I want to know how to reach out to those involved." She wants to release a statement and bring leaders together about these things. I believe this is a learning experience for her and the University in if we should just expel or allow students to grow. I'm optimistic this woman is willing to learn the profound lessons she must to make amends.

-Meeting End-