



**President's Cabinet
Agenda
May 16, 2024
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY ITEMS

- President Davidson provided personnel, legislative, and protet updates (details below)
- Concerns expressed around Shared Governance and Complaints by Admin and Staff policies; both policies will move forward to President Davidson for consideration.
- Recommended departments and units prepare for what a shift to remote operations might look like for their employees. Guidelines are provided and it's encouraged to be flexible and empathetic if remote operations are needed.
- Majority of spring semester's strategy pillars have meet their goals; goals are on a semester or yearly cadence and will be updated accordingly (visit [strategy website](#) for more info)
- Financial Aid office is continuing their communication efforts around FASFA and CASFA applications.
- [Alumni Career Mobility Survey results](#) are public and provide relevant information for all units

ACTION ITEMS

- Check out the [MSU Denver Community Collab Summit](#) August 23 – save the date, submit an idea, register for the event!
- Public feedback for 5/16 President's Cabinet can be submitted through this [Qualtrics link](#).
 - Submissions are confidential unless stated otherwise.
 - Deadline to submit feedback is August 8th

I. Approval of minutes from 4/24/24

- Approved

II. President's Update (11:00 AM-11:10) – Janine Davidson

- Lynn Minnaert has officially started her position as School of Hospitality Dean
- Deputy Provost Marie More has accepted a new position with Purdue University Northwest as their Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.
 - Her last day with MSU Denver will be July 14.
- Legislative session saw \$132 million awarded in new base dollars for higher ed
 - Projected to yield \$9.1M for MSU Denver to invest toward mandatory cost and some budget priorities
 - Includes a 3% cap on residential tuition growth
 - \$50 million to establish the Gina & Frank Day Health Institute tower building
 - \$8.4 million to fund a new Student Information System (SIS)
 - \$6 million toward creating a dedicated Classroom to Career Hub space
- Passage of 37 pieces of legislation impacting higher education—our mission, our operations, and/or our community
 - Includes bills MSU helped influence, such as: the continuation of student educator stipends, revisions to the rural healthcare provider pipeline program, and creating the serving institution designation
 - Supported by the testimony and outreach of more than 40 students, faculty, staff, Community Cabinet members, Foundation board members and Trustees
- MSU supported the notion to curtail momentum for the last-hour legislative compromise on property tax reform with a competing ballot initiative that will have negative impacts on State revenues and likely devastating impacts on funding for higher ed

- Campus Demonstration Updates
 - The health and safety of MSU Denver students, employees and visitors is top priority and is always the first consideration when MSU is making decisions, followed by the ability to fulfill the University's academic mission.
 - MSU Denver strongly supports civil engagement and peaceable assembly, balanced with the University's priorities to keep campus safe and to fulfill our academic mission. The University encourages student activism on and off campus and offers a comprehensive student-activism resource guide to help them do so.
 - Protestors have escalated their tactics over the past week, disrupting campus operations, including entering the Tivoli and AES buildings, blocking roads and vandalizing property.
 - More than half of the individuals protesting on our campus are believed to have no direct connection with our campus and are using an escalating playbook we've seen play out on campuses across the country
 - Protestors met with Board of Trustees

III. Roadrunner Shoutout Awards (11:10 AM-11:20) –Janine Davidson

- Faculty winner - Andrew Thangasamy
 - Political Science Professor, “Nominated by one of his students who said Professor Thangasamy goes beyond the textbook and provides lectures and readings that help students understand complex material. Student nominee Kristen Sherman noted his flexibility and empathy.”
- Staff winner - Jesus Yañez Ruiz
 - Student Success Coach with the Pathways to Possible Program, nominated by a fellow coach “Jesus has been an exemplary colleague and a fantastic coach, helping build Pathways to Possible into a program that has served over 500 students. He maintains a caseload of more than 100 students, and he helps each of them get to the root of their hopes and challenges and make the most of their time in college. He also brings out the best in other coaches”
- Student winners - Louie Pinkerton
 - Lead in the Writing Center and graduate student in Social Work, “Louie was nominated by Elizabeth Kleinfield, Writing Center director, who wrote Louie has demonstrated a commitment to growth, social justice, and the empowerment of oppressed and marginalized populations. Louie has been an employee in the Writing Center since 2018, progressing from peer consultant to professional consultant and member of the leadership team.”

IV. Policy Second Read and Votes (11:20-11:25)

- **Shared Governance Policy - Jenny Allert/David Fine**
 - Concerns around the increase to workload and committee service
 - Dr. Goodnick clarified this would be an “as needed” committee and will probably not go into sessions frequently. Once everything is established, the committee will be used less and less.
 - Concerns about whether the policy will be more administrative than cultural. There was not as much student voice in making the policy . There should be clear lines and lists on topics to be considered by this committee.
 - Intention of policy is to make a cultural shift when it comes to shared governance
 - Two opposed votes; the rest approved
 - Policy moves forward to President for consideration
- **Complaints by Administrators and Staff Policy – Charles Kibort**
 - Edits to policy since first read include: Added a process for student employ complaints, Defined roles of supervisor, Defined complaint definition, Added inclusive language to fit complaints from students
 - Deans are concerned about the language being too “broad” and the 30-day policy for past complaints. Flow charts have not been adjusted.
 - Past complaints were recommended by the community to get the bigger picture.
 - One opposed vote; the rest approved

- Policy moves forward to President for consideration

V. Student Success Launch 23-24 Accomplishments (11:25-11:35) - Will Simpkins

- 7 different groups are working on Student Success Initiatives
- MSU Denver's technology systems/processes are being evaluated as it can be confusing for students, some students didn't apply for graduation when they should have because of this.
- Confusion around Undeclared Majors and those who are really "pre-major" students who have yet to be accepted into their desired program; a focus on differentiating these two will go into effect in 2025.
- No difference in retention issues in exploratory students (only first years)
- Groups working on templates to help navigate the website better for different programs (milestones)
- Advisors and students have made 6,000 new academic plans, generated AI technology chatbot with advisors, this saved hour of time.

VI. Shift to Remote Guidelines (11:35-11:45) - Larry Sampler/Andrea Smith

- Guidelines assist when remote operations are mandated through a presidential decision
- Recommend preparing employees in advance should this happen.
- It was asked that "flexibility" be communicated in the messaging.
- Request to differentiate between faculty and staff operations
 - "Department guidelines" are often associated with the RTP process for faculty
 - Intent is to "make every effort to move remote", and if not possible for faculty, the faculty member is responsible to communicate course cancellation to impacted students and make up the learning objectives.
- Concern around student employees going remote and having access to needed technology
- As much advance notice as possible will be given to MSU faculty/staff/students should remote operations be needed

VII. Strategic Plan Update (11:45-12:00) - Meredith Jeffers

- Link to strategy updates and video recaps: <https://www.msudenver.edu/strategy/>
- Presentations in Spanish will be available in the next week or so
- Goals are set on a semesterly or yearly cadence and updates reflect those cadences
- 74% completion of goals for spring 2024 implementation (anything around ~70% is good!)

VIII. FASFA Update (12:00-12:10) - Kerline Eglous

- As of May 14th, MSU has received approximately 56% less of CASFA applications in comparison to last year
- Received 28,000 FASFA applications in AY23-24; currently received 25,351 applications for FY24-25
- Student Information System is having a tough time keeping up with FASFA data
- Continuing communication and outreach to students and parents about the changes in the FASFA applications via letters, emails, texts, etc.
- Target deadline is now July 1st to allow students and families to complete applications
- May 18th is the new deadline for scholarship applications

IX. Key Updates (12:10-12:20) - Select Participants

- **Budget Update – Jim Carpenite (10mins)**
 - Budget has become more developed over the span of time with a new group, next cabinet meeting with go in detail about what the budget consists of.
- **Alumni career mobility survey results - Brandi Rideout/Ruby Matheny (5 mins)**
 - Link to data: <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/msu.data.analytics/viz/shared/5HYK87CZN>
 - Surveyed 2016 - 2019 graduates
 - 55% earn more than the medium income in Colorado

- 436 responses in total

X. Shared Governance Updates (12:20 PM -12:30 PM)

- TSAC
 - June 1st is when a new set of leaders will come in
- Staff Senate
 - Graduate tuition benefits are still in progress, there will be a new set of senators by next cabinet meeting
- Council of Chairs
 - New email sent to ourgoing and incoming chairs regarding next year's COCD agenda
- Faculty Senate
 - Faculty senate is done for the year (yay!)
 - Same leadership team will continue to serve for AY24-25