

COVID-19 COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020
2:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Thirty-two people attended the COVID-19 Committee meeting.

1. Dr. King updated the group about the response to the Governor's Survey related to COVID-19 changes. The first questions asked is if the colleges planned to have remote delivery after Thanksgiving. PCCUA responded "no" because the College faculty will not have 100% virtual delivery. The response was clarified by sharing that some programs (CDL, nursing, welding, etc.) could not be offered virtually and could not administer virtual exams. The second question was whether colleges planned to have a spring break. Almost all colleges indicated plans to have spring break.
2. In an effort to be more transparent, Committee meeting minutes will be provided to the college listserv. In addition, an open invitation is being provided to all employees. Dr. King did ask people attending the meeting who were not part of the Committee to be mindful that the Committee does a lot of work and sometimes questions they may have can slow the group progress. Any attendee can write a question on the chat or email questions. Any person can become part of the Committee by sending her a request.
3. The "WC" Grade will probably be used this fall. It has to be shared with two committees who have to provide formal approval but so far it is believed that this is important for students.
4. Kim Kirby shared her work on leading the effort to provide Health and Wellness Zoom sessions for students and staff. She has mailed a notice to the listserv and has received several very good ideas. Kelly Roberts has confirmed that she will present the "Stress" session she delivered at In-Service. Kirby reported that Naomi Owens had several Ted Talk sessions which she could use for a couple of presentations. She should have a schedule soon.
5. Kim Kirby reported on Phase Four Re-opening. She indicated that the Phase Four Subcommittee felt that based on safety and the need to socially distance and that no events would take place until after January 31. The group will re-examine that date in December. One part of the discussion influenced their decision included a fear that PPE supplies was scarce and if we used it for sanitizing after events there could be availability problems for our students. Also, it was felt that there were often issues with ensuring people wear masks and socially distance with events.

The group did indicate drive through events were permissible like the Fed Ex Job Fair on the Helena campus and events like a fish fry, or other drive by and pick up kinds of activities. The main point of being so careful is it reduces cross contamination with the virus and the providers do not rely on college resources which are needed for our students and employees.

Recruitment Activities

1. Faculty are being asked to make sure students provide cell phone updates. Dr. King sent out a request to faculty to get cell phone updates to students and this information will be sent to registrar's assistants. At this time faculty and advisors can't make update changes for students.
2. The Committee wanted a note sent to faculty reminding students about preregistration. Dr. King has already sent one message.
3. Lee Williams, Michelle Waites, and Rhonda St. Columbia contributed to this effort. Rhonda will devise a text message which can be used to text students about pre-registration. Lee shared with the group that there is no way to determine bounce backs or messages not received. He said that we should have no difficulty reaching students this way. He and Rhonda will work on the Emergency text system reminders. Michelle Waites will work on a BlackBoard message sent to students.
4. Rhonda St. Columbia mentioned that the new schedule will feature different ways courses are offered such as face-to-face, online, hyflex, hybrid, fast track and other deliveries.
5. Postcards will be sent to students who have accumulated more than fifteen credits but less than sixty. Hopefully the postcard effort will encourage pre-enrollment. Rhonda St Columbia will lead this.
6. Rhonda St. Columbia also shared information she received at her weekly tracer meetings with the System colleges. She mentioned that if you go to a doctor with symptoms which could be flu or the Coronavirus that you will be given a flu test and quarantined. This was because they could definitively detect flu and by having the test it would include or rule out flu. She also reminded everyone that you can have both the flu and the virus.
7. Debbie Hardy shared all the work being done to move toward 100% online faculty evaluations. Kayla Holland has presented several workshops trying to prepare faculty for this. COVID has pushed us toward making the online process a reality.
8. The group is still interested in pursuing the preregistration raffle if possible. Von Daniels will be working on that as an option.