

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY TASKFORCE

April 22, 2020

Present:

Advisory Taskforce

S. Fenske, J. Lyle, J. Knaust, R. Gatesman, S. Brooks, P. Frese, L. Horner, J. Geiger, D. Dollins, C. Mason, S. Puleio, J. Hendershot, J. Hummell, T. Varsek, P. Gent, S. Shannon, D. McCauley, D. Pitts, A. Lahr, L. Cullo, A. Jamison

Agenda Items

1. Summary of Drop Box Comments

J. Lyle reported that the committee chairs received the drop box comments noting some of the comments may not be helpful. He reviewed a summary of comments by areas and subareas.

Members discussed a few of the summarized statements.

2. Reports of Workgroup Status

Revenue Generation Workgroup

L. Cullo shared that this group has a number of interesting ideas that need quantified and scaled with meaningful dollars behind them.

Academic Programs Workgroup

P. Gent indicated that the workgroup reviewed data and asked colleges to review and right size their academic programs, continue to leverage online and develop new modalities and markets, and revise university processes to allow flexibility in the curriculum to expand offerings to students and reduce costs.

Enrollment Optimization Workgroup

D. Dollins noted two major buckets – tuition and retention – that this group is discussing and reviewing data. They have examined various options to attract additional students to campus and plan to review of retention data and strategies.

Employee to Student Ratios Workgroup

J. Geiger reported that this group is development of a plan to show that CU is not like other schools. He added that grant employees would alter the ratios to lay out a case for how we truly compare to schools in the system.

General Savings Workgroup

T. Varsek reported that the group has reviewed a number of suggestions and have additional information to review. She discussed several of suggestions that could provide larger amounts of savings.

3. Updated Timeline

S. Fenske shared the updated timeline noting the workgroup recommendations due to the FSAT on May 15, the FSAT reviews the information May 15 – 29 and the draft two to PASSHE is due on June 19.

4. Final Report Template and New Assumptions

S. Fenske indicated that the Chancellor provided the timeline update and new assumptions. L. Cullo reviewed assumptions noting that they are not much different than the original.

5. Open Discussion/Questions

C. Childers questioned housing budgets and L. Cullo shared that the on campus housing was purchased for the main purpose of making housing more affordable to attract students and impact enrollment in a positive manner, which would impact retention and total cost of attendance.