Chairs’ Cabinet – February 19, 2021

- Attendees - Mandy Fales, Caroline Hayes, Andrea Wheeler, Carl Rogers, Carol Faber, Chad Gasta, Carl Weems, Dan Nettleton, Deborah Haptmann, Joshua Rosenbloom, Lorrie Pellack, Ruth McDonald, Leana Bouffard
- Approval of minutes
- Faculty Senate update - no new or unfinished business yet; accepted joint action plan for teaching assessment and evaluation, looking at best practices, more involved discussion coming; legislative update; Toiya Younger, Peter Doucer (VPR); at large seats open for business and human sciences
- Upcoming topics - how to evaluate faculty during covid and beyond, sabbatical/another clock extension, ideas for chair chats (how to socially connect grad students), tenure bill and reassuring faculty
- Heather Paris, Bonnie Whalen - seeking input on where reporting, etc. improvements are needed, what did we used to have that is missing now
  - graduate student support (linking information across different systems, ADIN)
  - projections of end of year balances, don’t match expectations
  - cheat sheet of things we need to know/look for (chair dashboard?), reporting names not intuitive
  - linking HR to finance, admin assistant accessibility
  - multi-year trend data about what? How long?
  - ability to recreate the information that was in the budget book
  - working to provide consistent, accurate reports and dashboard type things to make reporting easier for units; other thoughts, questions, input please share
- SVPP Update
  - vaccine news, don’t know when story county will be getting more, if you can get it elsewhere, do so, it doesn’t look like ISU will get its own shipment to distribute
  - trying to determine academic calendar for next year, will have thanksgiving and spring break, semester start after state fair, goal to end spring semester in usual time frame, planning a winter session and figuring out how to make it work, hoping for a more normal year with largely in person instruction and similar scheduling as in the past
  - BOR wants universities to have identical schedules, won’t happen next year but will be collaborating in future years, not sure about length of semester (15 weeks plus finals, maybe 14 weeks plus finals if regular winter session), decision in next week or so; asking about immunocompromised student accessibility, alternate work assignments (likely to be something)
  - Legislature - working with BOR on responses and progress of bills; fielding a lot of data requests, advocating with business community; individuals should not be speaking, counterproductive to university efforts, BOR supportive of universities; freedom of speech bill, not expecting many others to go through (https://www.legis.iowa.gov/lobbyist/reports/declarations)