

Subject: Re: DU's financial status and budget decisions
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020 at 11:42:58 PM Mountain Daylight Time
From: Christine Mafana
To: Amanda McBride
Attachments: image001.png, image003.png, image005.png, image007.png

From: Office of GSSW Dean <gsswdean@du.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:37 AM
To: Office of GSSW Dean <gsswdean@du.edu>
Subject: DU's financial status and budget decisions
Importance: High

Dear GSSW faculty and staff,

By now, you should have received and read the [Chancellor's communication](#) on the financial status of the university and decisions made to address it.

Decisions made to align the university's budget directly impact the livelihoods of some of you. While pay cuts are an expense reduction strategy, this was not a strategy that I was aware was a possibility to be implemented university-wide, at least not right now. Once I learned this last Friday, I advocated against the pay cut and was unsuccessful.

There are also other cuts that may impact you, including reduction of the university retirement match. These two temporary cuts pain me greatly, given how very hard you work and how successful we are as a school within DU.

Additionally, the decision to close the Bridge Project due to a lack of revenue moved very quickly, and no doubt was a surprise to many of you. While Bridge has struggled financially for years, it still pains us. Bridge is a part of our sense of self. There were also closures and layoffs across campus, which are sad for those of us who have worked with these colleagues for years.

Finally, there are a range of nuances to the university's decisions that will impact GSSW's financial status and budget in different ways than we have discussed previously, based on the attached presentation I reviewed with all faculty and staff last week. I want to review these nuances with you. I will join the first 30 minutes of the sessions with the faculty and staff on Monday, June 15, before you move into small group discussions led by members of the EAC and staff co-chairs.

I want to answer any questions you have and to also hear your concerns. Please remember you have the option to anonymously share your thoughts via this [form](#) by Friday, June 12 at 3pm. While we need to understand the consequences of these current decisions, I suspect many of you also have questions about the future. For example, I want the university to identify financial metrics it will track and share with us, and I want to know what future expense reduction strategies might be utilized based on the status of those metrics. I will continue to press for answers.

GSSW is what it is because of you. Your brilliance, commitment, and hard work are the backbone of any success we have. I maintain my commitment to transparency and will continue to keep you regularly informed regarding the finances of the university and school, so that we can make decisions together and move boldly into the future.

This past quarter has been exhausting and the fear of the unknown haunts us, yet we are strong as individuals and as a school. Thank you for the expressions of understanding and resolve I have heard over the last two days. Your commitment to one another and the school is inspiring.

With humility and appreciation,
Amanda

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