We are now live and recording.
Welcome everyone. My screen just changed I don’t know what happened.
Thank you all for joining us today. Just when we know what we are doing, everything changes.
I would like to call to order. That was loud, right in front of me.
The 2020 17th of April, Bridget Henderson, I am this is our spring meeting. We will begin, with just some little housekeeping items. I want to remind you, if you are not speaking, to place your microphone on mute.
If you have any technical difficulties, April is available by text, you can text her and you can work it out.
Among yourselves. Hopefully without disrupting the meeting. But we will begin with a roll call. I will do a roll call of the regents and administrators. If you are present in the meeting. Please say here. Alton Fraley?
Here.
David alters?
Here.
Scott call?
Here.
Karen?
Here.
Jen Winston?
Here.
Zoe.
Here.
We were made aware because of some COVID-19 issues and professional obligations, Judy Olson is unavailable to join us today but I will still call her name to acknowledge, she is not here. Judy Olson?
April, please record not here. Scott Gordon?
Present.
Steve Bullard?
Here.
Danny?
Here.
Steve Westbrook?
Here.
Ryan IV?
Here. Irma Breck?
Here.
Anthony Espinosa?
Here.
Diamond Derek?
Here.
Gina?
Gina is listening online.
Okay. Okay, thank you again, for joining us and taking your Friday and Saturday out for the spring the strange spring meeting. We, will do things a little bit differently, then normal. I am sure we will learn a lot over the next two days, things we do not know and things we need to know, but with all of the challenges we do have, we will still move forward with this spring meeting. Our first item of business will be a university COVID-19 update and Dr. Gordon will take that over.
Thank you Mdm. chair, it is a pleasure to be in front of you electronically, when I first started here at SFA I introduced this term to volatile uncertain complex and ambiguous. I don't think I ever could've imagined or anyone could, the extent of that environment that we have now found ourselves in. In higher education in many, many years arguably a lifetime of higher education, many would say this would be, one of the top five single most impactful events for higher education, I would have to agree since I've only been in higher education for about 27 years. It is definitely the largest thing that has occurred, in that time. One of the things, we were going to do for you today, is review with you, all of the different, impacts, changes, and collaborations, ideas, thought, that have taken place, just really in the last month and a half for six weeks. Over this period of time, starting in late February, I just cannot say enough about how strong this team has been. This leadership has collaborated tremendously and communicated, more than I have seen any team communicates. I would say, I would put them up there as one of the best if not the best administrative team in the country. What I did want to do what is, have each of the cabinet members, talk a little bit maybe five minutes, about what they had to go through, in their units, to adapt, become resourceful, and to change the
way we do things, here at the University, in order to best serve our faculty, our staff, and our students. You will see a presentation, on your Dylan digital and site there is close to 60 sites. I will tell you we will not go through those slides, and have death by PowerPoint, but I did want the team to illustrate what each of their areas have done, during this COVID-19 crisis. It really truly is amazing because all of this has been done in essentially over a month. So, with that I will go through this and each of the cabinet members, can take five minutes to talk about how they have been impacted, and they will also introduce the next team member, and then at the end I will have a summary, for you, and give you an idea of how I perceive things going and how the students have perceived things going during this COVID-19 incident. With that, I will turn it over to Steve Westbrook, most of you probably know I policy, Steve is our chair of the emergency operations committee and center and has been doing a outstanding job of keeping all of us informed and holding regular meetings, to help disseminate information from the variety of campus areas. So Steve, take it away.

Thank you, Dr. Gordon, hello everyone. I will try to squeeze everything into our five minute time limit. I will tell you the first time we began work on this response was in February. Actually February 6. We have a public health policy, that outlines how we deal with public health issues, I chair that committee, that policy was actually supposed to come to you for review this meeting. We have deferred that to see if we need to make any changes after we go through this issue. February 6, we convened our public health committee to begin to review, and implementation of the pandemic response plan, that was 72 days ago, at that time, there have been 12 cases that were reported, in the United States. Within our pandemic response plan, there are numerous units, that began to make plans, so those begins those groups began to revise their response to the plans and then on 10 February so 40s after that meeting, we launched a website, which we called coronavirus prevention website, keep the campus community informed, and to provide links to relative sources of official information. Then we moved from February 10, until March 2, because that is when we begin to see, this was going to become a more involved issue. Even at that time, they had only been 53 cases officially reported in the country. But, we then expanded our small public health committee, to a 22 member coronavirus response team. Because we began to understand then we would not only have to implement our pandemic response plan, we would have to look at the continuity of operations issues. That was on March 2, March 4, we met with that team for the first time to review, CDC guidance and look at how we thought we were ready, on what we were doing. At that time, on March 4 there were only 98 cases reported in the country. Two days later, we conducted an exercise, to test our capacity, to communicate, and work remotely, to further frame the issues that would be related to going to some type of alternate operations. This was 43 days ago that we did this. We tested two scenarios, one scenario, this was the Friday before spring break for some context, we tested one scenario, that was a situation where there may be cases within the region, and following spring break we might have students or employees that would be hesitant or even refused to return to work or class, after spring break, we tested ways that we might address those issues, then we moved to a second scenario where we would shift to online operations, in case of a expanded number of cases within the region. Then, we agreed that we would evaluate the readiness gaps in each area, and that we would debrief on those the Friday following spring break which would’ve been March 20. As you know, we never made it to that debrief because on March in each area, and that we would debrief on those the Friday following spring break which would’ve been March 20. As you know, we never made it to that debrief because on March 12, we made the decision to move to what we call restricted operations. We notified all of campus community about that, where we extended spring break by two days through March 17, and we moved all of our classes to some type of online or other distance education format, until April 6.

We thought we may be able to come back in a few weeks and then we canceled all meetings and events for the remainder of the semester. Then, only seven days following that, it became obvious that we would need to extend that online and distance education, a part of the original announcement to the original semester and we did postpone May commencement we close residents calls her residence halls for the remainder of the semester we only had about four 400 return from spring break. We asked them to vacate their homes no later than March 29 on a Sunday. We began to take requests for emergency housing for students, that had no alternate place to live. We ended up, we had 44 students that are still living in housing. We are working with them, they are isolated in different resident halls, but they had all sorts of issues, some are homeless without housing here, some have aged out of the foster care system, some have grandparents or their guardians and they have health conditions at home, so out of about 3700 residents, we have 44 that are still living with us, we did announce then we would provide refunds and credits for unused portions of housing, parking permit fees, dining and we canceled all meetings and events for the remainder of the semester. A few things, back when we clicked that switch, a few things took off. One thing we did, even after the first announcement is we opened the call center because one thing we have learned through dealing with crisis situations, is that sometimes, parents and students want to talk to a person rather than reading websites. We open the call center, we took calls, I will give a lot of credit to our director of auxiliary services for organizing, and often manning the phones, at the call center it was very nice, when a student or parent had a question, and they were actually getting the answer from the person that was the decision maker. So that is always very helpful
for us also because students and parents often have follow-up questions after they get their first answer. So, we still maintain the call center 468-3401. We can help students or families find answers to their questions. One of the biggest, changes was to our auxiliary services area. Of course we had 3800 One of the biggest, changes was to our auxiliary services area. Of course we had 3830 400 residents living with us in the spring, that turned off of course overnight. We had 4100 4189 dining plans, that came to a screeching halt. We had to cancel 215 events in the student center alone. Does have a value of around $170,000. Our summer camps, are at this point at a standstill, because we simply cannot give anyone assurance that we will be able to do those, last year we hosted 43 summer camps, this year we only have three on the books, we are not sure we will be able to do those. We are on a three week rolling window to inform those three groups, that is a revenue impact of a little over $800,000 as well. Our testing services area, prior to our change, we had administered 580 high spec tests, since then zero. Our post office is a US Post Office so we do remain open, just as they remain open. But our volume of package handling is down about 72%. Of course our printing services area has gone silent as well. Looking at the changes in our orientation and transition programs, we would be getting ready to begin to host new student orientation over the summer, that is going to take a complete shift, we will be doing online advising and registration to the course of the summer. Then, we will plan to do it just in time orientation the week prior to fall classes. If we are able to do that. That is what we are calling our Jack camp so were kind of moving our Jack camp program for week prior to fall classes and all of our incoming new students will be able to participate in that. Our center for career and professional development, has has transitioned to virtual professional document and resume critiques. Career coaching appointments and mock interviews, have access to our career expo employers and access to the job board, and they are conducting virtual professional development workshops and our disability services area, we have 379 students, that are clients of our disability services area, we immediately, had to contact them and service providers to ensure, access to all of the online content was meeting the accommodation requirements and provide them the resources and assistance that they may need for remote learning. We worked with faculty, to access their resume lectures and B2 L content for those that need interpreters, readers and we have been assisting faculty transcribing their audio and converting them in accessible format and uploading those for our students, and we are providing readers remotely by Zoom for exams and course content we have tutors by zoom, we are working with students and faculty to have accommodation for extended test time. Our title IX office, quickly adapted all of our services to remote or online format and guidance of legal and professional organizations to make sure all of the services were in compliance, to with our requirements. Our counseling services area had to move to all remote services, though initially all of their clients that had scheduled appointments, following the campus closer risk were contacted and given an option to schedule a distant session and we began offering sessions via zoom, and then we continue to conduct sessions either by telephone, or zoom, and we publicize that distance counseling on the website and social media and just this week our counseling staff developed a resource for faculty, the highlighted the trending issues that they are hearing from their clients, that they are having with distance learning and provided suggestions to our faculty to help address that with our students. Our health services area and health planning with the students and employees of campus, Dr. Linné and her staff has been kind of our internal Department of Health Services and they provide a close liaison with county and state resources she struck down epidemiology across the state so she's done a great job for us. Our campus recreation area,. You have about one minute. Okay, March 17 about 30 days ago we closed our physical recreation center and moved online, we are still doing about 80% of our group classes online so we are doing 13 classes per week, and we do have, other E sports tournaments that are going on for our students in that area. Our police have been securing facilities across campus, and then I will wrap up with our food pantry. We are still helping students, that live with access to our food pantry, our student emergency aid fund, we still are receiving calls and fortunately still receiving donations for that, we are able to help students that have lost jobs or unable to pay rent. So with that, I will pass off the baton to Dr. Bullard.

Steve, can we turn your camera on can you tune your camera on so we continue. Okay thank you. I am the only one without a seal today. So forgive me for that I will continue. I want to call your attention to something, the significance of what's been done with academic affairs is just as significant as the things that Dr. Westbrook summarized in student affairs. It has been intensive, very dramatic. I would like to call your attention and I promise, in terms of PowerPoint it won't be a comorbidity factor. If you would look at page 27.

I will just go to page 28, while let me do that on page 27, I think you will see March 12 was the day before you have a special board meeting the Thursday before what was to be the special call meeting. But on a day when the announcement was sent out to that at 3 PM that afternoon, that was during our spring break so Oliver faculty was gone. Yet we knew by the following Wednesday, we had to take everything online. If you would look at the next page, page 28 that simple graphic shows you, we had 477 course sections online, another 97 that were other distance Ed. To put that in there, for or just to show you rather the comparison if
You go to page 29, you will see that what we had to do was take 2595 course sections into a different format. Either zoom base or online or other remote format, that required and that would be Monday, Tuesday of the following week. So there were two days to get those 2600 course sections into a different format. So what I wanted to do, if you look at slide 30, the way it was done a couple people responsible Megan Weatherly and Tina are on the call today helping us on the technology side. They and the other fine staff in the CTL, Center for teaching and learning, were already in action, before Monday the 17th. And Tuesday the 18th they were already, prepare from the faculty came back on Monday. They created a keep teaching website, that's no small thing. It was a very, very useful thing. It took a lot of work, the faculty was able to learn everything they needed to know, essentially from the website. And therefore, some of the demands were less for things like the webinars, the virtual and walk-in labs, the phone and email support they did send up pop up zoom studios, also use the website, Facebook page, Twitter pages, also want to give a shout out to IDS, they collaborated intensively for them or with them during that time. Then going forward, classes started online on Wednesday the 18th, Steve said thinking it would only be through April be through April 6, but I'm just a short while later, that was changed of course know that it would be through the end of the semester. I want to indicate another significant date which is March 20, it's highlighted on on page 31. That was a day that in your special call meeting the regents gave Dr. Gordon authority to temporarily temporary authority to suspend policy. Where that significant, you will see that on the following Wednesday, March 25 we had to issue new guidelines for faculty. Everything is contractual in terms of promotion of tenure and how everything is used. That is all been turned over completely. So we issued new guidelines, on tenure and post-tenure review plans for assistant development, other distance education stipends would be handled, student evaluations, and telecommuting or teleworking for faculty. That was on the 25th on Friday the 27th, we had a zoom meeting with faculty, that afternoon on Friday afternoon the 27th, the faculty Senate had a pass/fail option and came up with a resolution to support continuing our current grade policy, some of you may have been involved in that. Some of those things are summarized on page 32.

What I just want to say is we have had to implement more exam proctoring, where you see there on page 32, proctoring logos alive that product has been months in the making to get that online. That was a $50,000 product, I do want to say this, I really want to give a strong shout out to Jeremy so Paul and the faculty Senate. You'll hear from Jeremy tomorrow. They have done a phenomenal job of working through this, I want to say, I have not heard one complaint from a faculty member to my office, about this. Everybody realizes this is a situation, that's an emergency, and has been working extremely hard to get it done. The last thing on that slide in the last thing I will mention you will see those words student support and student registration, registration for summer open on March 23, of course all of that is online now. Advising, and then the academic assistance and resource center. I want to give Amy and her crew is shout out because they have done extreme also extremely intensive work, to retrain the student tutors, supplemental instruction, all of the support that we provide to students, that used to be face-to-face. It has to have it had to have been completely modified. That is the last thing I would like to say in the area of academic affairs. But, I do think our deans and academic unit and our faculty have really put their shoulder to the wheel, and could not have done a better job. With that, I will turn it over to Dr. Galanti.

Thank you. Good afternoon Mme. chair members. You've heard a lot about what's happening with regard to academic affairs and residence life. I will talk to you a little bit about some things that are taken place in finance and administration division. As my colleagues and Dr. Gordon indicated, we have seen a tremendous team effort on this campus. I have seen no complaints from any of the staff, people I've worked with, everybody work so closely together. On a daily basis, we have had to react to news, and new information from the federal government, interpretations from the Department of Labor, so we have dealt with a lot, a lot of issues and then addition to working with different types of employee concerns, and those others we felt it was strongly important to track the COVID-19 expenditures for a number of reasons. First we thought it was appropriate, and important to see what our financial impact would be, as it relates to the COVID-19 response secondly we want to articulate to you very specific financial details, that we have been affected by, as well as how a collection of data for our state legislative bodies, and in fact we have begun to develop a system of collecting data, we were contacted by the legislative budget board, he required as to submit, a copulation, of our financial activities both revenue losses, and expenditure increases. Related to COVID-19, by April 9. So we continue to collect those kind of data, and we updated that report on April 16. If you would what I would do is I am summarizing here, a lot of detail that we provided, in finance administration if you turn to page 44, that's in your digital and program there. I want to go through some things, before I go to the details I would like to tell you how we went about this process we collected, direct coronavirus expenditures, that were necessary to respond to the situation. We set up two different counts, one was a designated account to collect all of this institution expenditures, and set off the student expenditures which were collected, and a exemplary auxiliary account. We requested revenue information and all direct expenditures related to responses. As an example, we asked faculty, to report their time, as it related to their transition from face-to-face delivery, to online delivery. We asked students staff members rather to report all
of their time related to COVID-19 response part of the teamwork like my colleagues, I have to recognize IT, IT was tremendous, but we were able to do, we went and created, with budget, with payroll, human resources, financial aid, IT collaboration, we created an online process and manner for by we could capture the amount of hours, each individual staff member and faculty member on campus expended, on the grand on the COVID-19. The system was programmed to pick up the salary, calculate, the time spent on it, and keep up with that. That is included in this report you see before you and I will tell you, I was shocked to get this. The total amount of time, institutionally, we allocated to COVID-19, was 18,829 hours, the cost was 1,022,000. And that comes out to $54 an hour. So it has been a tremendous in the same time keeping up with the regular kinds of institutional operations. It has been a tremendous response, human resources has been unbelievable, at interpreting the federal guidelines, we did set up different relief code that will quickly go through page 44 with you, what we delineated there, was the revenue losses, which totally total 8.8 million. We also were asked, to project any kind of decline in revenue we did list that athletics revenue, we listed what we project we will lose, if you go on the very bottom, revenue losses, directly related to refunds. 8.8 million in total revenue loss was over 10.7 million. If you flip the page 45, you will see the expenditures, that were related to the COVID-19 response. We had to break these out or break these out by category, you will see that, the salaries and wages which total 786 you will see that, the salaries and wages which total 786,000, you will see the total benefits associated with those, and other expenditures. So total expenses, related to our institutional, COVID-19 response above and beyond, what we were required to do as a part of our academic commission was almost $12 million. So, I will stop there, and turned to Jill.

Hello everyone. Okay here we go. Okay we are on page 48. You can join me there. We will go through, several of the items, addressed by University advancement during COVID-19. First, we will start with University marketing communications. And as you know the website is our primary community should tool so it was imperative to get a fully functioning website in the moment of this COVID-19 pandemic. Jason Johnstone our University webmaster, did a outstanding job, developing a site he and his team have been diligent and in making updates around the clock, Shirley, has not only overseen the construction of this ever evolving website, but push communications from the University out to Allstate all stakeholders through email and social media platforms leading people to the website she and her team also closely monitored social media accounts to respond to students, parents and others in a timely manner. Which is important. In general regarding our communications, quick delivery and response. It has been and will continue to be critical. In the silent phase of a comprehensive fundraising campaign it has been important for our development team, to maintain donor relations virtually. Many have responded positively, to our feel-good messaging, we have shared while everyone is quarantine. Since gift officers cannot travel they can they continue to communicate while conducting high-level donor research. Our alumni relations team has been busy canceling numerous events as you can imagine between now and early fall. While taking some of them virtual like tuition raffle last week. In the upcoming senior sendoff, and other events. They also created and delivered positive messaging, as to maintain regular contact with our more than 105,000 live in alumni at this time. If you have not seen a tuition raffle produced using video and zoom last week I will forward the link to you, as our very own Pres. Scott Gordon did a terrific job. At this point, if we have no questions, I will ask Anthony to join you now.

Good afternoon thank you. As my colleagues mentioned, this has been a tremendous collaboration and teamwork initiative. It has been displayed by the group and I want to commend, all the ITS staff for the phenomenal work. We have staff that work long hours, weekends, nights, to assist the community with its transition to online. There is a great collaborative effort between ATS and CTL and I want to highlight Mike in that regard he has spearheaded the initiative working with your with CTL he's been tireless, relentless, providing the resources that have been needed, as part of that we had to create a good amount of recommendations you can imagine to help our communities transition online. Brandon Springfield's, really has stepped up to help in that arena not only traditional documentation but two videos to help guide the community through, the transition to online, remote work, telecommute, that type of environment. Programming staff coming than a phenomenal job, Rich, Tracy, among the other staff they had to create processes to do the refunds we talked about, before face-to-face. I really want to highlight and thank them for their work. As part of this we have encountered community members to have limited or no access they patch access and various garage parking spaces to provide individuals the ability to come up, and while maintaining social distancing because they can do this from their vehicles onto highlight them for doing that into our community. You may have heard in the community we have had a COVID-19 testing center and testing sites with the call center. That was a great collaborative effort, no one within SFA trying to get that set up and spearheaded led by Mike he has been tremendous and running support that we have needed for this. As the doctor alluded to we have had issues we had to escalate. Slate was one. We are using that to communicate with our students, and prospects and I want to thank Meredith Bailey and her staff to really stepping up getting that initiative initiated and moved forward. They identified things we can get done and implement it now, so that we can make it work later. I want to think the whole ITS team for the work
they've done in the supporting the communities as we make this transition. So thank you. Next I will call up. Irma.

Are you with us Irma? calling Irma.

Okay can you see me? okay great wonderful and thank you. Good afternoon everyone, it is great to be here with you guys, even virtually. I also will join the echo of the amount of collaboration that is taken place across this campus, within different departments and in different units. Areas that we would've never really thought we would afford with, it has been amazing to make sure, what we can accomplish to keep moving as forward and serving our students. What I have done and you will see on the slide they take an opportunity to kind of break out the enrollment management unit, and the three different units financial aid, registrar and omissions, just to provide a little bit more of a focus on a different type of activities, or impact that the COVID-19 situation has caused within the enrollment management area. I will begin with the financial aid office, I think one of the biggest areas in that office for us is just been transitioning, completely to a telecommunication process where while we are still able to maintain financial aid awarding which is incredibly critical to our not only current students, but prospective students and the financial aid counseling that goes in to that. So again, a huge shout out Anthony's team and technology, helping work through a lot of different situations, being able to get to a complete telecommunication process but still maintaining some office tasks or procedures that were or would require a scheduled staff to be in the office daily. There is a lot of department of education documents, electronic documents such as fast or loan documents at half to be brought down by staff. So adjusting that schedule to accommodate telecommuting but still making sure, the work is being able to be obtained from the Department of Education, a couple of different things in financial aid that was probably a little bit of a highlight was the work-study program is really critical in getting the directions for the Department of Education on that. Because federal work-study is a need-based award, it was decided that that part killer award would still continue to be given to the students, even if they weren't working. So it worked a lot with our business office folks, our HR folks to make sure any of our students that were doing federal work-study, regardless if they were able to be here on campus or not, will do their federal work-study job could still get that financial aid, in the federal work-study format since it is need-based. A good amount, of time and it still ongoing in regards to the policy reviewed for SAP is seeing the changes and discussions that have taken place and have impacted how aid may be awarded based on academic performance. We were in with the pass fail discussion we had to look at how the appeal process will work as well as students academic performance. That it is impacted due to COVID-19 situation making sure we assist the process in place making sure the student appeal process won't be a hurdle. Making sure we establish a code so they would be continued to be awarded for the fall. Moving forward with adjusting that policy accordingly. The policy review is a return of title IV funds or federal funds. Those changes are based on the cares act. Most of that part is dealing with the return of withdrawals, and if a student withdrawals normally a course certain federal funds are returned in this case, because a disaster declaration has been made, going through that review policy on how the withdrawal date and the refund amount or the return of any title funds would be based, that is still also an ongoing discussion with our colleagues. Adjusting mats, and working with our Smith Hudson who is a donor for a scholarship to have those funds returned and interestingly, probably just got on the radar I was a few days ago, last week, was working with the cares act as well in regards of the emergency grant fund and seeing how we will be awarding that and giving that money that emergency fund to our students. The registrar office, activities have just subjected some dates to accommodate faculty and students, the biggest one I think was a big joke to everyone of course was postponing May commencement. We were very adamant on making sure we use that language of postponing because we will be having a virtual commencement. It will speed scheduled for May 30, there has been a lot of moving pieces in great teamwork making sure, that SFA provides its first ever hopefully only virtual science on May 30, so, that is been an ongoing, as you put the pieces together for that and then also in regards to the register office, just a lot of the services making sure making sure we were looking at which services we had both on the web, and areas that usually students would need to come in and making sure we can address that language in service of the students would be able to still be serviced from afar. Or from a distance. On the recruitment and other side we have on the operation of receiving applications and processing applications, we have continued to move forward with that. Definitely still had to make some adjustments in regards to telecommuting process on that and all documents and review of applications keeping up making sure that is done in a very compliant way and a very be mindful of records, the recruitment side, we have worked closely with UMC, updating our webpage to instead of us having a Saturday showcase which the March one had to be canceled or recruiters going out to do college fairs and meeting students at the high schools at the community colleges, we had to completely reestablish, our strategic plan for recruitment into a virtual manner. Our webpage does have, a SFA admissions that is still here for you and provides a menu of different recruitment services that we are offering everything from Jack chat's we have 63 different topics scheduled throughout the month of April. We're having regular admissions counselors, a one-on-one zoom session with the student and family, we are doing different type of virtual
college fairs, so that virtual activity goes on every day, I am incredibly amazed with the staff, we have always had a regional group, it actually has made everyone regional to be honest. It has brought together I think a spirit of teamwork and understanding, and everyone is bringing their talents to the front so that we can make sure we are continuing to help impact the recruitment, not only for this false class, but the juniors who are already in a college search process for fall 21 as well. So that kind of wraps up my part I want to go ahead and hand this over to Ryan.

Thank you, good afternoon everyone. The next to last so I will make this as painless for you as possible. So we can move on. Obviously, this has been and had a big effect from an athletic standpoint and continues to do so. And my colleagues have already done I want to think and brag on her athletic staff and students and student athletes how they have handled the situation it has been something that has been a tremendous impact on them, especially our seniors who had their seasons, abruptly stopped, and they did a great job of managing this process from a academic standpoint and social standpoint and being great representatives for us moving forward so I am extremely proud of our student athletes, coaches and staff. Moving forward. Our biggest priority with COVID-19 when it hit was and is and continues to be to try to serve our student athletes, and maintain some structure, too there is perspective situations as many of you know, our student athletes, live in a very structured environment, as soon as it happened and they were sent home to their perspective, we have desperately tried to create the structure for them, and maintain some sense of normalcy for them moving forward. I think our staff have certainly done that. I want to be able to serve our student athletes and provide an environment which they found they felt supportive supported and cared for. This began March 6 if you look at page 59 that's when the athletic information portion runs in and I will be brief March 6 through the 11th of read did get regular updates regarding guidance of winter championships and what that looked like. March 11, our athletic executive team met on how we would receive our student athletes back from spring break including screening process potential exposure for the student athletes, and any determination to have them self isolate moving forward. March 12, that was the day in which we canceled the conference basketball tournament in the NCAA canceled their winter and spring championship that was also the day we voted to suspend all spring sports competitions, through March 30 at that point in time from a conference standpoint, that on March 14 the conference we voted to cancel remaining spring sports seasons and championships. Moving forward. During that period of time our athletic director Dave team develop procedures for four areas for main areas rather, first one was academics, we wanted to make sure we created some sense of normalcy or framework to for our student athletes as it related to their academics, their academic endeavors. So each week, our student athletes are sent a objective sheet by their academic advisor by 5 PM Sunday. For student athletes who are normally in the required weekly study hall, they are basically or at risk student athletes are required to check in with their academic advisors at 3 PM Monday, Wednesday, Friday to make sure that work is been completed. Our student athletes who are not on campus and normally in a required study hall, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Make sure that their work is being completed in a timely manner. We utilize virtual to tutoring, and we make sure the academic integrity we do record those in spot check them. Whether it's virtually or in person is still in place. And ratifications do occur for the student athletes to miss a tutoring session, or late to a tutoring session moving forward. We have started virtual studding halls, for our larger sports and may be more at risk student athletes. Specifically for position groups and position group coaches are online. We did develop a training manual for students athletes as well as teachers we have less, and less issues each week, I am really proud of our academic staff and student athletes moving forward.

Our second area was communication. At this point in time to athletes being gone, all over the state. All over the country really. We needed so we leveraged our Teamworks platform and since about March 14, when we initiated our teamwork platform had over 3000 messages sent and 100 form completions. Those are updated numbers as of yesterday. So I'm really proud of that medication platform that we got to use to get our messages out. To our student athletes and create that sense of conductivity moving forward. Our third area we knew we would have challenges with, is our finances. Immediately, we started to work on a refund policy for all spring sport, and Southland conference basketball holder ticketholders. We have three options they could receive credit on their account for future games, they could rollover the amount of purchase to the purple light fund and receive gift credit for that. Or they could receive a refund via their credit card, credit or check from our SSA business office moving forward. Our SFA business office moving forward. I am proud of the refunds we could've processed and given back we've only given back about 20% and actual cash refunds moving forward. The rest of them chose to use that for credit for futures ticket purchase or rolled it into other credit moving forward. So our fans are still invested in us. So I cannot thank them enough. From an NCA membership distribution standpoint with the loss of winter and spring championships NCA lost over $100 million in revenue. That is essentially 80% of their revenue, annual revenue, moving forward. We expect, over the course of FY 20, and FY 21 two losing approximate $750,000 and NCA distributed funds moving forward. We at this point in time, have frozen all nonessential spending. And all expenses for athletics must be approved by myself and Rob Myers, moving forward. We are working with the conference
office at this time, for upcoming year for the upcoming year will look like as far as expensive in context moving forward. Our fourth area, was compliant standpoint, obviously with Trent with COVID-19 there will be a lot of issues. Specifically we have recruiting band in place there's no face-to-face contact we did begin April 15 with the new signing., So we are able to issue an owl eyes and grant needs for new student athletes, the biggest piece of really fat did come from the compliant standpoint, was a additional season of competition waiver for all spring student athletes what that means, for beginning next year they can come back, they can receive the amount of their current scholarship up to their amount of their current scholarship, for us, we asked our seniors, for those that would be coming back, who would, and who wouldn't be our max amount it could've been under $400,000 $398,000. But again, 60% of our seniors said, they would be coming back, so we are at about $225,000 in additional scholarship calls. That's also going to bring a additional $203,000 to the institution from an equivalency points are sports standpoint moving forward so really our daughter we have to cover there's $22,000. Currently, what is the future hold for College athletics? will we start on time? what is the folio light? quite frankly, no one really knows at this point, we are currently working with our conference members, other colleagues throughout college athletics really try to get a better picture, on what that does look like moving forward. There are all kinds of models, and things out there. We do expect to have athletics next year, we just really do not know what that will look like right now moving forward. With that, I will pass it or pass the baton back to our fearless leader.

Thank you, the few things I want to say and then we will have a open for questions, comments and so on. The one thing I really want to reiterate is my extreme pride, and a variety of folks. First of all this team, buckeeyes every single decision that is made independent of what unit is making the decision impacts another area of campus. So, we have gotten to know each other, I would say quite well. That's over the last six weeks or so. And we have talked about all of these decisions, the impact these decisions have on the various units, and that sometimes that has resulted in a modified decision than what was originally on thoughts. So it has been a tremendous experience, it really has brought us together, I also think we have the best faculty in the nation. Dr. Bullard mentioned he did not get any complaints, I did not get any complaints from the faculty, I think during this whole crisis everybody has been understanding, everyone has been caring, and thoughtful. Our students, I will give you some data on that in a moment. For the most part, the students are very pleased with how this has been handled. By the University. I also will talk about more of this tomorrow. But it really has brought together the city, county, NIST, the University, I have had several communications with the former and ISD capital and ISD who is in hiding, for Morse most people but not us because we have a charter school. Decisions that we make, with our charter school, needed to be mirrored with capital and ISD the county and city with the stay-at-home orders, we need to be in sync with those even though we are a state entity, we wanted to be good citizens of city and county. So, I have been talking with the mayor, and county judge on a regular basis, just to make sure we are all communicating, we all have the same information, so it has been a tremendous feat to keep everything straight, communicate everything, tomorrow, I will up date the board on the details of the suspended and modified policies. And I will go into some detail, about which policies and why those were suspended. I also will take some time tomorrow, you did hear about our COVID-19 world we are living in right now, we cannot just stop with the COVID-19 world that we are living in right now. We have to think post COVID-19, so I will spend time tomorrow talking about some of the ideas, the initiatives, the concepts that we have, for this post COVID-19 worlds. There is a lot of unknown, but there is a lot of things I think, we can do to emerge from this as a stronger university, stronger community, and a leader in higher education, in the United States. So let me talk a little bit about a survey that the student affairs group recently sent out to our students. Just about four days ago they sent a survey out, we had so far, 893 respondents. This was a survey sent out to all of our SFA students. 893 of those students did respond pretty evenly distributed between freshman, sophomore, junior, senior. [Captioners Transitioning] Our students have had some issues. We put in all sorts of resources for them. It is the grace and gratitude of a lumberjack. We have had 83% of our students perceive that the SFA response has been considerably better or somewhat better than other universities. That is another point. That is very important. Another question, 87% of students perceive the SFA communication during this crisis has been good to excellent. One looking at how we have handled the refunds, because of this crisis. 91% of students perceive that SFA's refunds have been fair to excellent. It does not take much to look up COVID-19 refunds. The number of institutions that are not being sued or the number of institutions that are getting really hit hard about their refunds. 91% of our students are happy with the way we are handling refunds. We asked them about the issue. Are you considering not returning in the fall? What we found, and this is a wonderful result. 92%. I wish it were 100. 92% of students plan to return to us this fall. Again, I am extremely proud of the way the faculty, the staff, and the leadership has handled the situation. I will tell you that while we are still in the midst of handling it, we -- About six ago, we were making decisions. We were having to revisit ideas every hour or so. It has gotten to be a little bit longer of a time. Now. We are still in the situation. We are talking about things we can do to help our students.
Help our faculty, the staff. Help the University and the health of the University. We are also very much deep into the discussions about what we are going to do post COVID-19. I will talk a little bit about that tomorrow. With that, I know everybody is still on the call. If you have any questions or comments or -- We are open to answer any of them.

Sure. Can you guys hear me okay? Okay. I want to thank Dr. Gordon and the entire team for what they have been doing. I have observed it up close. It is impressive, the collaborative spirit. The selflessness. And, just the creative energies going into continuing to put SFA above and beyond with service to our students.

Thank you guys for all that you have been doing.

Thank you, Alton. I would be remiss -- When I talk about faculty, staff, and student. Everybody across campus. The cleaning was stepped up. It is continuing to be tremendous. The people who have manned the phone line for hours and hours on weekends, during spring break. It has been amazing. Are CTL folks who came in from over spring break and worked tirelessly to work our family sleep. They say, when the tough -- When the going gets tough, the tough get going. We got going. You know, I was a little bit worried, because I know that several of us during spring break were running on fumes. We had the adrenaline going. We have taken care of one another. We looked at each other. Hey, take this weekend and relax. Really, it is built a tremendous team. I am proud to be part of that.

I would like to say, congratulations to you and your entire staff. This report, very honestly, just -- Even keeping up with the documentation. What you have been able to do to document. I know that was a request of the governor's office also. It was to keep track. We can report back to them. It would be a learning experience for all universities. Across the board, and through the state of Texas. I agree with Alton. I commend you and your staff. Y'all have done an outstanding job. Way to go. Okay. If we want to move on from the COVID-19 report, we will now go into executive session. April, if you would like to instruct us on how we move from open session into executive session. We will move forward after.

Yes, ma'am. I am going to send you something to join the breakout room. You just click on the request. You will join Damon. He will take control of the technical side of the breakout rooms.

Okay. Is everyone good with timing? Would you like to take a break hash mark stand up and move around question mark you want to keep rolling?

A brief break would be great.

Okay.

While we are transferring into executive session, why don't we take a 5-10 minute break. We will all meet back.

Did we need to leave this meeting? Just hang on?

No, I will put up and share my screen. It will show that the meeting is momentarily pause. Also, I will cut all video for all of you.

Thank you. We will see you back in 5-10.

[ The event is on a recess. The session will reconvene at 3:20 Central Standard Time. Captioner on stand by. ]

[ Silence ]

[ Captioner standing by ]

[ Captioners Transitioning ] Please stand by for realtime captions.

Can you hear me?

I can.

Okay. Welcome back to open session of our spring Board of Regents meeting. We will recess to reconvene in tomorrow morning, April 18th, at 9 a.m. At this time, this portion of the meeting is adjourned.

[ Event concluded ]