Drexel Family Association Advisory Council
August 4, 2020 via Zoom

Attendees: Denise Armentani, Patty Gallagher, Kathryn Warlick (minutes), Lisa Daughen (DFA Chairperson), Kaitlyn Delengowski (Director, Special Events), Lynne Hickle (Executive Director, Steinbright Cooperative Education)

1. Welcome

2. Special Guest – Lynne Hickle, Executive Director, Cooperative Education
Lynne discussed the coop from a perspective of 20 years growth and success. Special note that the coop has an enormous influence on applying students; 87% of students rated it as most influential factor. Currently, coop jobs, students participating in overseas coops, and jobs that are offered are down. Paid coops may run into difficulty since companies may want to hire/use Drexel interns, they also may be laying off or furloughing full time employees during this unprecedented Covid time. New outlets, updating online module, ways of creating jobs, finding jobs, and how the department looks to fill its job bank is under a brainstorm of new ideas, suggestions, and revisioning, given today’s parameters. Ongoing challenges are pandemic, meeting expectations, staffing needs, the dynamic nature of the work, student demographics, legal issues. Lynn presented such a fabulous view of the department’s work – and welcomed any and all ideas!

Coming:

New Parent Portal being debuted! Excellent resource for connecting parents and Drexel.

Need to increase parent involvement in DFA Advisory Committee.

3. Fall 2020 Update
City of Philadelphia not allowing large gatherings until February, if then. Family Weekend moved to Spring 2021. Working toward hybrid model of school with remote and in person learning. Capacity for students in classes limited. Residence halls and student centers will accommodate yet look different due to preventative safety measures. Students will be required to wear masks in all buildings. There have been additional hand sanitizers placed around campus and in buildings. Accessing food / dining halls will be different, and much will be on a take-out basis.

4. Move-in Weekend
Execution changed due to additional safety measures.
There may be volunteers from the DFA asked to help with the processing of students into the buildings, understanding that check in processes will be different this year. Volunteers will greet, look up students, and help check them in, guide them in what they need to do.
Date of move in – September 12, 13, 14th.

Welcome week – hybrid design and September 14th-20th
Classes begin September 21st
Students will be asked to quarantine before coming and show a negative test for Covid. They will need to follow the school’s Health Tracker App.

5. Open Discussion (to conclude by 8:30PM)
   Questions on coop, testing availability, next meeting, and need for flexibility discussed.