

PROGRESS REPORT

Working Group Name: Journalism Department

Working Group #: 11

Chair: Tim Scott

Date: February 13, 2022

Update on Actions Taken Since Last Report:

This is the initial report. An introductory meeting was held on February 9 with every member of the working group present. The working group reviewed the charge and related details from the MGT report and Path Forward document. Dr. Scott provided clarification on areas to think about when developing recommendations for building a journalism program. He focused largely on strengthening the existing journalism concentration in university studies to build a true journalism degree that produces Aggie journalists who are well on their way to establishing themselves as excellent members of the profession.

The working group recommended initially thinking about the new Aggie journalism program from two perspectives—academic and working journalist—by forming two subgroups.

The subgroups will examine topics such as the current nature of journalism and anticipated changes in the field, curriculum and structure of journalism programs at state and national institutions, routes to journalism careers, and journalism employment prospects.

The working group will build on the input from the subgroups to identify the appropriate scope and content, type of administrative structure, resources needed, and implementation timing for the new journalism program.

Next Major Issue to be Addressed:

The working group will need to determine a common definition of Aggie journalist to inform the framing of the new journalism program.

Also the working group will need clarification on the recently added charge to “Review and consider how The Battalion fits into the reestablished journalism program, as well as how Texas A&M can strengthen The Batt’s role at the university.”

Problems or Barriers Encountered and Solutions Identified:

No problems or barriers identified at this point.

Deliverables Completed:

No deliverables completed yet.

Timeline for Completion of Remaining Deliverables:

Upcoming deliverables and anticipated dates:

April 1 – Recommendations regarding journalism program curriculum and components

End of May – Recommendations regarding the administrative structure of the journalism program