



BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

Staff Forum

April 16, 2026

Aminta H. Breaux, Ph.D.
President

General Updates: State

The legislative session has ended:

- BSU received \$1.5M for safety and security upgrades and for boilers and chillers.
- The University received an additional \$2M to support development near the MARC train station.
- The Thurgood Marshall Library and Academic Commons is in the state capital budget and on track to open in 2031. Design phase is underway.



General Updates: Federal

“**One Big Beautiful Bill**” (BBB / OBBBA) represents a significant shift in federal higher education policy from access and inputs toward accountability for outcomes, especially earnings and return on investment (ROI).

- The requirement that institutions demonstrate wage outcomes by program is one of the most consequential elements
- Threat to Academic Program Portfolio
- Programs most at risk include: Education, Social work, counseling, mental health arts, humanities, languages challenge these fields
- Often produce lower early-career earnings but are essential for public service, community leadership, and workforce gaps.
- Institutional tension: maintain mission-driven programs vs. protect eligibility for federal student aid.
- Elimination of Grad PLUS loans
- Caps on Parent PLUS loans
- New loan limits and proration rules
- Effective July 2026



General Updates: New Funds

- BSU selected as one of 16 colleges and universities nationwide to participate in Lumina Foundation-supported From Campus to Career Program and will receive \$100,000 over two years, along with tailored technical assistance and cohort-based support.
- Bowie State University has been selected by Second Nature as a recipient of the *Climate Luminary Honors Award* for our Peace Park Restoration initiative. Bowie State has been recognized as a Tree Campus Higher Education institution for the fourth consecutive year.
- The Maryland Energy Administration has awarded BSU with the Higher Education Clean Energy grant in the amount of \$727,500.





Recent Achievements & Highlights

- Founders' Day
- Shared governance efforts through monthly leadership meetings and University Council with outside consultants
- Annual Women's Expo (BSU Women's Forum)
- National panel on Mental Health & Bail Reform
- Social Justice Symposium
- Campaign for Excellence closeout and endowment growth



Spring Commencement Speaker: Dr. Michael Eric Dyson

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson—professor, author, intellectual and one of the most powerful voices shaping national conversations on race, culture and democracy—will deliver the keynote address at the Spring Commencement.

When: Friday, May 22nd

Location: Bulldog Stadium

Time: 9:00 A.M.



MAY 22 AT 9 A.M.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MICHAEL ERIC DYSON

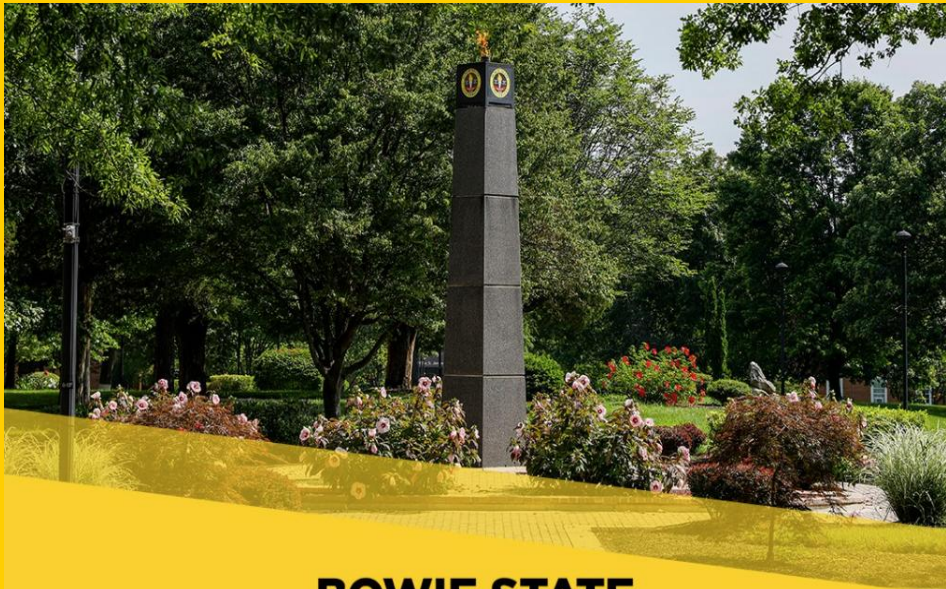
Professor, Writer and Lecturer

BSU Bold: Campaign to Excellence Unveiling



BSU Bold: The Campaign for Excellence ended its five-year run-on December 31, 2025.

- **\$128.5M** was the final total raised during the BSU Bold: The Campaign for Excellence.
- Vice President for Philanthropic Engagement Brent Swinton and other special guests participated in a panel discussion about how the Campaign for Excellence campaign has strengthened scholarships, expanded academic programs and enriched the student experience.



**BOWIE STATE
RECEIVES LARGEST SINGLE GIFT
IN 160-YEAR HISTORY**

\$50 MILLION

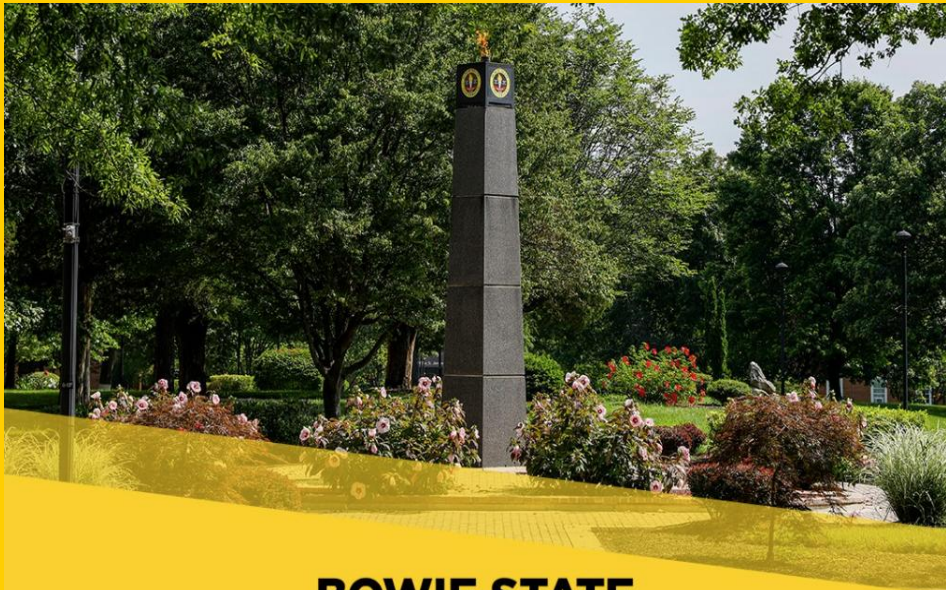
**THANK YOU,
MACKENZIE SCOTT**



Proposed Use for MacKenzie Scott Gift

Bowie State will utilize the ***Boldly Forward*** strategic plan to guide priority use for the one-time funds and balance urgent needs with long-term stewardship.

BSU's first responsibility is to ensure that our students can afford to enroll, persist, and graduate, and that our faculty and staff have the resources needed to teach, support, and innovate at the highest level.



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Proposed Use for MacKenzie Scott Gift

- Invest \$35 million into the endowment to assist approximately 400 more students annually.
- \$15 million for current use

The gift will:

- Expand student financial aid, reducing out-of-pocket costs and student debt.
- Improve enrollment and financial aid services, making it easier for students and families to navigate the path to college completion.
- Invest in faculty research, academic programs, and doctoral education, enabling faculty and staff to deliver high-quality instruction and compete for external funding.
- Modernize campus technology and infrastructure, improving the daily experience of students, faculty, and staff while strengthening cybersecurity and operational efficiency.



Mackenzie Scott Gift Questions

Question #1: Why can't we use all of the Scott gift to address the budget deficit?

Answer: The problem is a structural issue caused by lower enrollment that reduces income, causing multiple year deficits.

The way out:

- Increase revenue
- Reduce expenses

Mackenzie Scott Gift Questions

Question #2A: Why can't we use all of the Scott gift to pay all of the student debt?

Answer: The strategy is not about choosing between today and tomorrow. It is about honoring both.

Using all \$50 million at once would be a short-term win. But stewarding it thoughtfully allows us to support students today, strengthen the institution, and ensure that future students, who deserve the same opportunity are not left behind.



Mackenzie Scott Gift Questions

Question #2B: Why can't we use all of the Scott gift to cover student tuition?

Answer Part 2:

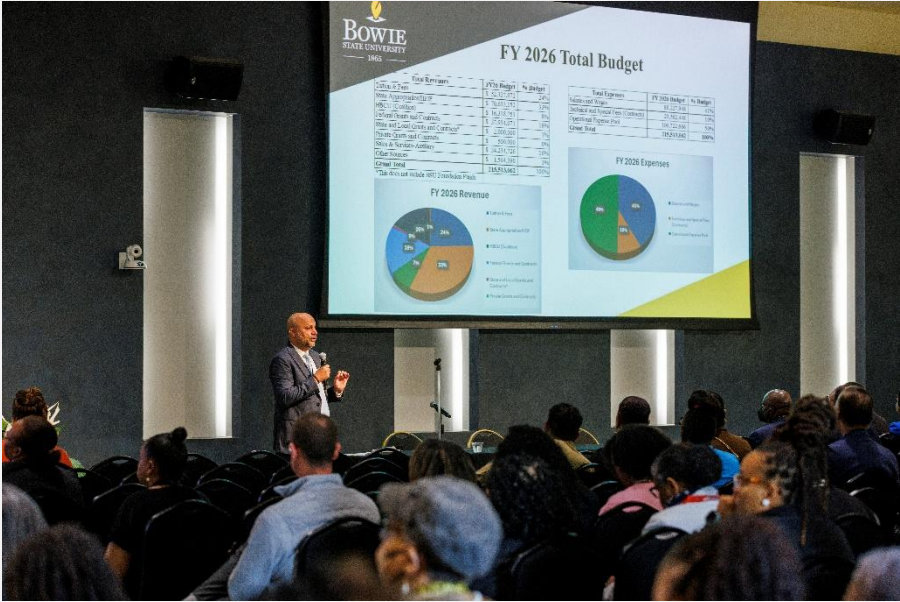
Total need for current students

2580 students

- \$51,927,243 total need
- Funds would be depleted in one-year



Budget Update



All members of the campus community are invited to attend the **May 15, 2026 Budget Town Hall meeting in the Student Center Ballroom from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

As reported in the Town Hall meeting on March 3, 2026, BSU is projecting a decline in enrollment for FY '27.

Affordability remains the primary obstacle for students enrolling and persisting to a timely graduation.



Presenting Next:

- **Manish Kumar, Vice President for Administration & Finance**



Recap Summary

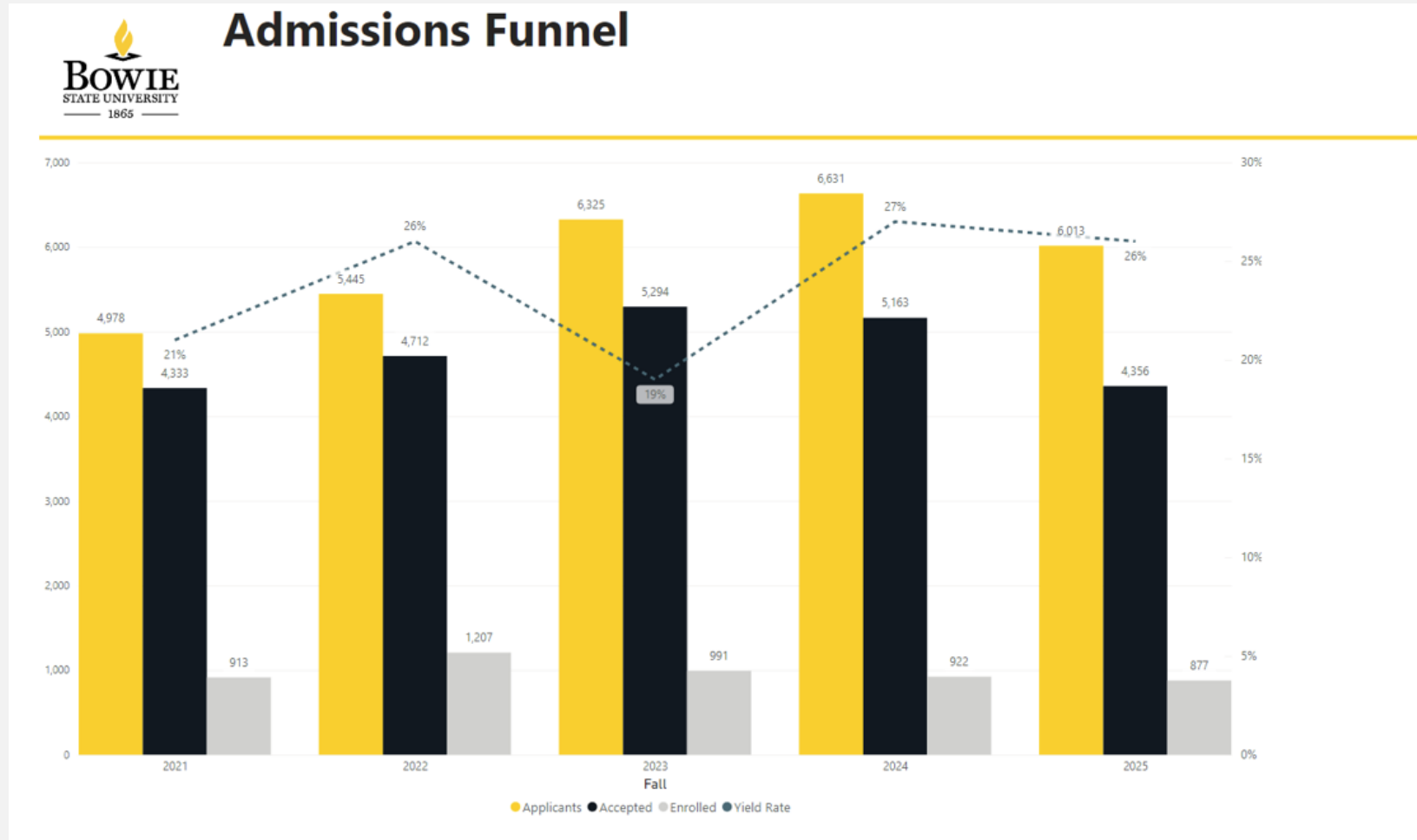
FY '26

- The FY 2026 University budget resolved a \$13.6M shortfall without layoffs
- \$7M revenue reduction over FY 2025 due to the reduction in State appropriations attributed to the State budget deficit, HBCU Settlement Funds contribution due to lower enrollment numbers, Federal Grants and the financial impacts of lower enrollment—affordability, insufficient housing, changing demographics
- \$6.6M in increased expenses due to increases for COLA & Merit, Health & Fringe Benefits, IT expenses, spending on new facilities, and increases in Financial Aid & Philanthropic Engagement
- Cost reductions, delayed hiring, implementation of process improvements and increasing revenue streams allowed the university to overcome the deficit.

FTE Trend Analysis (Provided by OPAA)									
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	1 year % chg	2 year % chg	5 year % chg
Level									
Undergraduate	5,354	5,381	5,378	5,288	5,136	4,810	-6.3%	-9.0%	-10.6%
First-Time, Full-Time, Degree Seeking Freshman (IPEDS cohort)	957	888	1,170	965	908	855	-5.8%	-11.4%	-3.7%
Graduate	896	927	897	1,120	1,217	1,160	-4.7%	3.6%	25.1%
Total	6,250	6,308	6,275	6,408	6,353	5,970	-6.0%	-6.8%	-5.4%



Continued Demand for BSU: Application Trend



Graduation Trends

Degrees Conferred (FY 2021-2025)



Level	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Undergraduate	882	851	856	757	731
Master's	267	212	191	209	237
Doctorate	16	6	17	10	40
Total	1,165	1,069	1,064	976	1,008



FY '27

FY '27

The next 2 slides are taken from the Presidential Town Hall on March 3, 2026. [The full presentation can be found on our website.](#)



FY 2027 Budget Highlights

Lower revenue & increased expenses creating short-fall in FY27

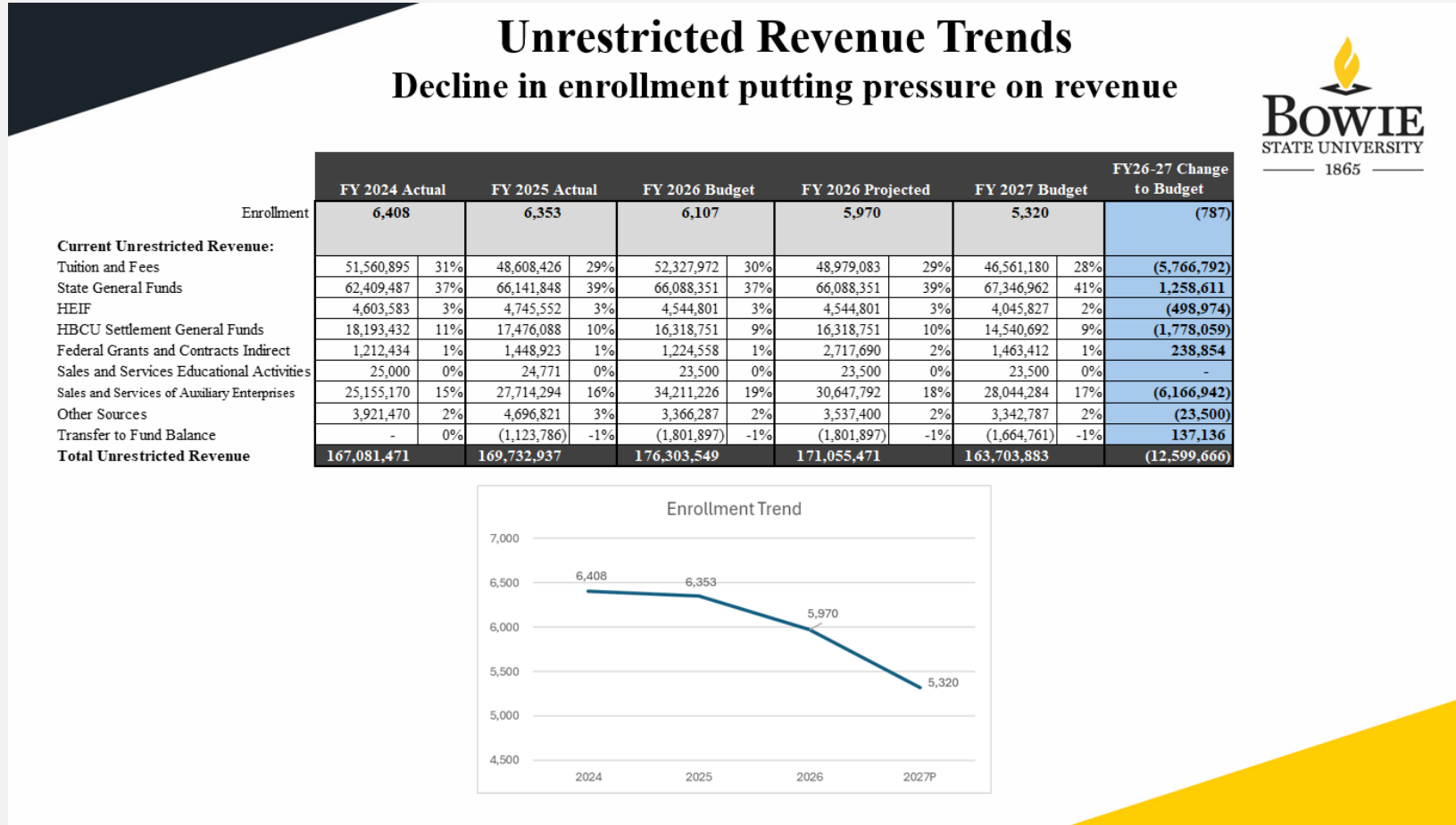
- State funding of \$85.9m, which is a total decrease of \$1m from FY26
 - Coalition funds decreased \$1.7m to \$14.5m in FY27
- \$11.5m Tuition & Fee revenue decrease from FY 2026 due to lower enrollment estimates
 - 2% In-State and Out-of-State Tuition increases outweighed by lower revenue due to lower enrollment
- Due to revenue constraints, there will not be a call for new initiatives for FY 2027
- **Overall, anticipating an estimated \$14m to \$16m shortfall in FY 2027**
 - **Potential \$14m in revenue and an additional \$2m in COLA and health rate increases**



FY '27

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Current Status and Projection

FY '27 Budget Projection Summary (April 2026)



- Declining enrollment is driving lower revenues
 - FY27 Budget initially forecasted revenues based on 6,208 student*
 - Current estimated enrollment for FY27 is 5,320 (14% decrease from original estimate)
 - Estimated FY27 enrollment of 5,320 would represent a year-over-year decrease of 11% from FY26
 - Lower enrollment impacting Tuition & Fees, as well as auxiliary revenue (total decrease of \$10.8m from the FY26 Budget)
- Declining enrollment is also a partial driver of the decrease in HBCU Coalition funding (\$1.8m decrease from FY26 Budget)
- We are anticipating an additional decrease in state funding of \$1.7m for FY27
- Potential increase of \$4m in unfunded expenses

Total estimated FY27 Budget deficit = \$18m (10% of total Budget)

Total of \$31m deficit for combined FY26 & FY27

*10-year projections submitted annually to USM



Next Steps

Highlights of investment and transformation for the Institution

- Short term and long term strategy highlights
 - Additional current use scholarships
 - Investment in the university endowment to grow and sustain assets
 - Additional investments in high yield programs and activities
 - Research and Innovation
 - IT infrastructure and technology integration
 - Customer service for students
 - Increase partnerships, grants, contracts, and philanthropy

- All options to reduce expenses and increase revenue under consideration including:
 - Downsizing human resources
 - Investing in technology
 - Department reorganizations
 - Capital assessments
 - Energy efficiencies
 - Supplies
 - Travel

Examples of Investments:
 Research Expenditures (FY 2021-2025)

FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
\$1,398,000	\$3,351,000	\$2,612,000	\$3,729,907	\$5,801,955



Moving Forward Together



- Commitment to transparency and shared governance
- Strengthening Shared Governance & Transparency
- Focus areas include:
 - Clarifying decision-making processes
 - Improving communication protocols
 - Enhancing transparency and documentation
 - Aligning shared governance structures and expectations
- Ongoing work to produce clearer, more consistent governance practices that strengthen trust and collaboration.
- Continued engagement through faculty forums, listening sessions and University Council participation.
- Continued focus on student success
- Strengthening partnerships and advocacy
- Building momentum under Boldy Forward



THANK YOU

