

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Minutes

Meeting date: November 6, 2023

Members in attendance: Dr. Dan Ennis, Dr. Edwin Craft, Mr. David Gladden, Dr. Christopher Jurgenson, Mr. Mike Kinnison, Dr. Eddie Lovin, Ms. Holly Ray, Ms. Haley Rooks, and Mr. Larry Wakefield (recorder – Ms. Claire Cole)

Members not in attendance: Dr. Ellen Green, Dr. Leslie Griffin, and Dr. Michelle Roberts

Guests: Dr. Vicki Bingham, Acting Interim Provost

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on November 6, 2023. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Ennis presiding.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Dr. Lovin and seconded by Ms. Rooks, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on October 23, 2023.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- On behalf of Cabinet members, Dr. Ennis congratulated Ms. Rooks on her acceptance to the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.
- Dr. Ennis gave an overview of the activities and events from last week. Dr. Ennis hosted the second Town Hall meeting, and he discussed ways faculty and staff can assist with recruitment. Dr. Ennis continued his engagement and re-engagement with community college partners with visits to President Ricky Ford of Northeast Mississippi Community College and President Jay Allen of Itawamba Community College. While visiting community colleges, Dr. Ennis made visits to donors, legislators, and the Superintendent of Itawamba County Schools. Also, Dr. Ennis visited Mississippi Delta Community College to meet their president and Delta State alumnus Dr. Tyrone Jackson. In pursuit of the Internal Auditor position, Dr. Ennis had a conference call with Commissioner Al Rankins. Dr. Craft shared with Cabinet members a report on the BPAC performance of Pablo Cruise.
- Mr. Kinnison gave an update on Athletics. The student-athletes hosted a successful Trunk or Treat. The Department of Athletics hosted Meet the Statesmen for winter sports last week. The men's basketball team has a scrimmage against Southeastern Louisiana University tonight in Louisiana, and they host LeMoyne-Own College on Friday. On Sunday, they compete at Kentucky State University. The women's basketball team competes in the GSC/SIAC Crossover this weekend in Memphis, TN. Cleveland Central High School will host some of their basketball games at Walter Sillers Coliseum in the coming weeks while their gymnasium is under repair. The football team defeated University of West Georgia over the weekend, and they host Mississippi College on Saturday. The men's soccer team won the first round of competition in the GSC tournament, and they will compete in Huntsville, AL on Friday and Sunday. The swimming and diving teams host their annual Thanksgiving Invite in two weeks.
- Dr. Craft gave an update on Facilities Management projects. The boiler for Nowell Union is being installed. The expansion tank for the boiler for Ewing Hall cracked, and a replacement will arrive in

approximately ten weeks. The crack has been temporarily repaired. The Mississippi Department of Transportation sidewalk project is on the east side of quadrangle this week. The roof on Broom Hall will be completed this week. The Mayers Aquatics Center receives new skylights in the coming weeks. The replacement ceiling tiles for Chadwick-Dickson Building are ordered, and the replacement process should begin in two weeks. Several leaks were repaired around campus last week. With ARPA funds, the university plans to install an isolation valve to assist the length of time water is turned off when fixing leaks.

- Ms. Rooks gave an update on student activities. Homecoming activities for students begin tonight with a movie on the Quadrangle. On Tuesday, students can participate in goat yoga on the Quadrangle. The annual lip sync competition is Wednesday evening in Walter Sillers Coliseum. The grand opening of the basketball court behind Foundation Hall is Thursday evening. A pep rally and concert in Statesmen Park occurs on Friday.
- Dr. Ennis shared with Cabinet members some of the meetings and events planned for this week. Dr. Ennis plans to participate in Green Friday at Hayes Cooper Center. The Alumni and Foundation Boards meet on Friday for their semester meetings. NCAA President Charlie Baker will host a phone call with the GSC Board of Directors and Athletic Directors.

CABINET TOPIC

None

BUSINESS

Action

Readmission for Military Service Members policy (new)..... Dr. Bingham

On the recommendation of the University Leadership Council, Dr. Bingham brought the new Readmission for Military Service Members policy for a final reading. Delta State University acknowledges that students may be temporarily unable to attend classes or be required to suspend their studies in order to perform military services. This policy applies to: (1) service members who are unable to attend classes for more than 30 consecutive days; and (2) service members who are unable to attend classes for less than 30 days when such an absence would result in a withdrawal from the university. A student must provide written notice of a uniformed service obligation as well as a copy of their orders to the Registrar’s Office as far in advance as possible, unless precluded by military necessity. The student must also give written notice of his/her intent to return to Delta State University within three years after the completion of the period of service. A student who is hospitalized or convalescing due to an illness or injury incurred or aggravated during the performance of service must notify the school within two years after the end of the period needed for recovery from the illness or injury. A returning student will be readmitted into the same academic program the student was enrolled in prior to the military service obligation. Returning students will be reenrolled with the same enrollment status, number of completed credit hours, and academic standing as the last academic year of attendance.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Bingham to approve the Readmission for Military Service Members policy for a final reading and seconded by Dr. Lovin. The motion was approved.

Discussion

Budget Update Mr. Wakefield

A budget update was not provided at the November 6, 2023 Cabinet meeting.

Recruitment Update/Overview..... Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin shared an update on recruitment efforts. The Office of Admissions will host High School Day on Monday, November 13. At this time, 704 high school students have registered. The Office of Admissions expects additional students will register the day of the event.

INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:

- Homecoming Week, November 6-10
- President’s Reception, November 11, 1:30 p.m., Dorgan Center
- Delta State Football vs. Mississippi College, November 11, 2:00 p.m. kickoff, Parker Field-McCool Stadium (Wear Green)
- High School Day, November 13, 10:00 a.m., Walter Sillers Coliseum
- Town Hall Meeting, November 14, 3:00 p.m., Jobe Hall Auditorium

NEXT MEETING:

- Next Cabinet Meeting – Monday, November 20, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – TBD

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.