

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT'S CABINET
Minutes

Meeting date: September 9, 2019

Members in attendance: President William LaForge, Dr. Vernell Bennett, Ms. Tricia Killebrew, Mr. Mike Kinnison, Dr. Charles McAdams, Dr. Beverly Moon, Mr. Rick Munroe, Mr. Cetin Oguz, Dr. Michelle Roberts, Mr. Jamie Rutledge, and Ms. Elizabeth Swindle (recorder – Ms. Claire Cole)

Members not in attendance: None

Guests: Ms. Katlyn Dickerson, Graduate Recruiter, Graduate and Continuing Studies
Ms. Cayce Friesenhahn, Coordinator of Graduate Studies and Admissions, Graduate and Continuing Studies

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on September 9, 2019. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with President LaForge presiding.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Rutledge and seconded by Dr. Moon, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on September 3, 2019.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- President LaForge likes to recognize team players who go above and beyond, and this week Cabinet will recognize those who helped enhance graduate recruiting this past year. President LaForge asked Dr. Moon to introduce her staff and share a few remarks. Dr. Moon introduced Ms. Cayce Friesenhahn, Coordinator of Graduate Studies and Admissions, and Ms. Katlyn Dickerson, Graduate Recruiter. Ms. Friesenhahn moved from Graduate Recruiter to her current role, and Ms. Dickerson moved to Graduate Recruiter from Administrative Secretary. Both have been working double duty in order to keep all three positions running smoothly. Dr. McAdams shared his appreciation on the way both work with faculty, department and division chairs, and graduate coordinators and his appreciation for their perseverance in this recruiting process. President LaForge thanked Ms. Friesenhahn and Ms. Dickerson for their continued effort to boost graduate enrollment; it is paying off.
- President LaForge gave an overview of the activities and events from the past week. President LaForge gave the Cleveland Board of Aldermen an annual update on the university last week, a member of the Board was complimentary of the work the Student Success Center does. President and Mrs. LaForge hosted a reception prior to the Delta State vs. Tusculum University football game last week, and the Office of Student Life hosted Statesmen After Dark. Dr. Bennett stated Statesmen After Dark went very well, and the fireworks display began immediately at the end of the game to allow the crowd to view the display. The BPAC performance of Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit was excellent.
- Mr. Rutledge gave an update on Facilities Management projects. He received an observation report on the Walter Sillers Coliseum project. Additional protective covering was placed on the gym floor and the

current work on the roof should be finished in 10 to 12 days. A pre-construction meeting for the roofing project on Fielding-Wright Art Center/Holcombe-Norwood Hall and the Facilities Building takes place on Thursday. Typically construction begins 30 to 45 days after the meeting. Mr. Finley will schedule a meeting with Dr. Bennett to share with her the plans for the renovated entrance to the Student Union. Delta State is working with the Bureau of Buildings to have all architects and engineers in place for the HVAC, roofing, elevator addition/repair, and Robert E. Smith School of Nursing addition projects prior to the money being available on November 15. An RFP for the bookstore goes out in November. If anyone has any ideas for the RFP, please contact Mr. Rutledge or Mr. Kelvin Davis. Mr. Rutledge plans to set up a meeting with the Police Department and Athletics to discuss ways to ensure attendees of the football games leave through Statesmen Boulevard instead of the neighborhoods.

- Mr. Kinnison gave an update on Athletics. The football team won against Tusculum University last week, and they will travel to Michigan this weekend to play Grand Valley State University. The men's soccer team was defeated by University of Texas at Tyler, and they will play again on Friday and Sunday against Ouachita Baptist University and Harding University, respectively. The women's soccer team tied with Missouri S&T last week, and they will compete in the Sunshine State Crossover this week. The cross country team finished in 13th place at University of Montevallo Falcons Classic, and they will compete at Loyola University this weekend. Statesmen National Radio Show begins tonight at No Way Jose.
- President LaForge shared with Cabinet Members some of the meetings and events planned for the week. President LaForge will host his first Faculty and Staff Luncheon for the semester on Tuesday. If any Cabinet members have suggestions on guests for the luncheons, please share them with Ms. Cole. On Tuesday, the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi will host the 2019 Delta Conversation featuring Mr. Archie Manning. President LaForge is scheduled to speak to the DSU LEADs cohort on Thursday, and he will travel to Michigan on Friday to attend the Delta State vs. Grand Valley State University football game. Delta State's Anniversary Celebration takes place on Monday at noon in the Lena Roberts Sillers Chapel. The next Cabinet meeting will be Wednesday, September 18.

CABINET TOPIC

None

BUSINESS

Action

None

Discussion

Enrollment UpdateDr. Bennett

Dr. Bennett shared with Cabinet members an update on enrollment figures. All new student categories are trending up from last year including Dual Enrollment. Dr. Bennett stated the Office of Admissions is looking to add 25 additional students to their Dual Enrollment roster. Also, 276 students have registered for Fall Preview Day, and the Office of Admissions has a goal of 310 registrants.

Additional information

- Dr. Roberts shared with Cabinet members the schedule for 2019-20 Visioning goal presentations. Dr.

Bennett, Dr. McAdams, and Dr. Roberts will present on Wednesday, September 18. Mr. Kinnison, Mr. Munroe, and Mr. Rutledge will present on Monday, September 23. Ms. Killebrew, Mr. Oguz, and Ms. Swindle will present on Monday, September 30. Dr. Roberts asked Cabinet members to use the new form developed by Institutional Research and to send the Visioning goals to Ms. Cole for inclusion in Cabinet materials.

- Mr. Munroe announced the remodeled Fireside Chat, now known as Statesmen Insider, has averaged greater views in the new format. Average views for Fireside Chat on Facebook were 665, and average views for Statesmen Insider on Facebook are 2,352. Average views for Fireside Chat on YouTube were 89, and average views for Statesmen Insider on YouTube are 201. Fireside Chat was too long to post to Twitter, but average views for Statesmen Insider on Twitter are 1,600.
- Mr. Munroe also announced an audit on Delta State Foundation began this week. The team will gather documents this week, and they will continue their audit at their respective firm. An Ellucian representative is on campus this week to work with the Foundation consultant on Banner information.
- Mr. Rutledge announced the termination of Delta State's Comptroller.
- Mr. Oguz announced the first Faculty Senate meeting is this Thursday. Faculty Senate, SGA, and the Administrative Staff Council are collaborating on a blood drive during Homecoming Week. Also, Mr. Oguz has created a Canvas shell for Faculty Senate where all faculty members have access. This allows for complete transparency in Faculty Senate.
- Dr. McAdams announced the Honors Program will host a Welcome Back Reception for its students on Thursday. The Honors program has around 60 students, and they have a new meeting area on the second floor of Ewing Hall.

INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:

- Craig Morgan, September 19, 7:30 p.m., BPAC
- Pig Pickin', September 20-21, Statesmen Park
- Fall Preview Day, September 21, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Delta State football vs. Florida Tech University, September 21, 2:00 p.m., Parker Field. President's Reception at 1:30 p.m., Dorgan Center.
- Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, September 26, 5:30 p.m., Cotton House
- International Conference on the Blues, October 3-4
- Kool and the Gang, October 3, 7:30 p.m., BPAC

NEXT MEETING:

- Next Cabinet Meeting – Wednesday, September 18 at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – Visioning Principles Goals for 2019-20 (Drs. Bennett, McAdams, Roberts)

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.