

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT'S CABINET
Minutes

Meeting date: November 10, 2014

Members in attendance: President William LaForge, Dr. Wayne Blansett, Mr. Keith Fulcher, Dr. David Hebert, Dr. Debbie Heslep, Mr. Ronnie Mayers, Dr. Charles McAdams, Ms. Marilyn Read, Dr. Michelle Roberts, Mr. Jeff Slagell, Mr. Mikel Sykes, Dr. Myrtis Tabb, and Ms. Leigh Emerson.

Members absent: Mr. Steve McClellan

Guests Dr. Leslie Griffin (Dean, College of Education), Dr. Cheryl Cummins (Field Experiences), Dr. Joe Garrison (Teacher Education)

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on November 10, 2014. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with President LaForge presiding.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- President LaForge welcomed our guests and thanked them for coming to discuss Teacher Education.
- President LaForge announced that he spent time last week recruiting in Desoto county and saw lots of potential students. The students in that area are enthusiastic about Delta State.
- President LaForge suggested we give discounted tickets to our students to encourage them to attend the Pat Tigrett Fashion Show. Mr. Fulcher announced that we have 200 people attending so far, and we have a donor who is sponsoring 75 tickets for students.
- Dr. Tabb announced that "Sister Act" will be held in the BPAC tomorrow night. We have sold over 800 tickets, and it is one of our largest productions. She encouraged everyone to attend.
- President LaForge discussed the flyer that was emailed to campus from the Delta Players group.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Mayers, seconded by Dr. Blansett, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on November 3, 2014.

CABINET TOPIC

Teacher Education Dr. Griffin, Dr. Cummins, Dr. Garrison

Dr. McAdams introduced the topic and stated that Teacher Education has been a mainstay program at Delta State since the beginning. We discussed the program at our Cabinet Retreat this summer, and so he wanted the Dean and others to come and give an update. Dr. McAdams congratulated them on the great review from NCATE this fall. Dr. Griffin discussed the history of the Teacher Education program and continuing the great legacy we have. Since 1954, we have had continual accreditation from NCATE. She discussed the national and state requirements we have to meet and the majors and graduate programs under the College of Education. Many different groups come up with ways to

evaluate the program, and so there are always many changes and guidelines to review. The College of Education's main focus is to grow enrollment in our undergraduate programs and our on-line graduate programs. Enrollment statewide has decreased by 11% due to lack of pay raises, increased regulations, and the lack of pizzazz for education.

BUSINESS

Legends of Delta State UniversityPresident LaForge

President LaForge discussed the launch of our most distinguished and prestigious program that recognizes lifetime achievement and service to Delta State. A draft copy of the program guidelines was distributed. The Executive Committee recommends approval of the new program as well as approval of the five members of the inaugural class.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Blansett to approve the new program as well as to approve the five members of the inaugural class and seconded by Dr. McAdams. **The motion was approved.**

Program/Service Reductions – Wrap UpPresident LaForge

President LaForge thanked the Cabinet Members for their efforts to finalize the budget reductions process and to communicate the information to our faculty and staff. He said he thought the forums went well overall. The newspapers followed up with basically the information we distributed. Several students have been overhead discussing misinformation, and so the need to host a student forum was discussed.

*Mr. Sykes will discuss this with SGA members and will let us know if they think we need to have a student forum.

Restructuring of Student Service AreasPresident LaForge

The Executive Committee has discussed for the last few weeks restructuring the four corners on the first floor of Kent Wyatt Hall, and they offer the following recommendations:

1. Registrar continue to report to the Provost.
2. Split Institutional Research from Registrar. Both continue to report to the Provost.
3. Student Business Services continue to report to the Chief Financial Officer.
4. Enrollment Management report to the new Vice President of Student Affairs. It was structured like this a few years ago, and it will make the process seamless for students.
5. Postpone additional changes until the new Vice President for Student Affairs is on board and has an opportunity to review the structure.

Mass Email Policy, Guidelines, and Procedures Dr. Roberts

Dr. Roberts distributed copies of the current policy along with a list of people who can send messages to the various listservs. Cabinet members discussed the need for everyone to make sure that the people in their areas are aware of and adhere to the policy. Currently, assistants/secretaries are placed in the difficult situation of knowing whether or not they should post an item.

* Dr. Roberts will work with the appropriate individuals to determine the need to modify the "Mass Email" policy as well as the list of people who can distribute emails to the listservs.

Academic Scholarship GuidelinesDr. Heslep

Dr. Heslep discussed revised guidelines for issuing scholarships to entering freshman and transfer students. She will distribute a copy of the information to Cabinet members via email (see attachment).

Christmas Tree Decorating..... Mrs. Read
Staff Council will be in charge of decorating the Christmas tree for Kent Wyatt Hall this year. They will decorate it on either Friday, November 21st or Tuesday, November 25th. We will then invite all faculty and staff to a Christmas Tree Lighting Party on December 2nd at 3:00 pm.

Discussion

- President LaForge announced that if we win Saturday against Mississippi College we will likely host the football playoffs the Saturday following Thanksgiving through the National Championships, which will be held on December 20th in Kansas City, KS.
- Mr. Mayers announced that our Interim Soccer coach, Mr. Andrew Johnson, has been hired as the permanent coach.

INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:

- “Sister Act” performance, November 11, 7:30 pm, BPAC
- Wade Statue Dedication Ceremony, November 14, 2:00 pm, lawn of Kent Wyatt Hall
- Dr. Kent Wyatt’s 50th Anniversary Celebration, November 15, 12:30 pm, State Room
- Homecoming game vs Mississippi College, November 15, 4:00 pm, Parker Field
- Fashion Rules. Music Rocks (Pat Tigrett Event), November 20, 8:00 pm, BPAC
- Race Conference, March 30-31

NEXT MEETING:

- Next Cabinet Meeting – November 17, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – Capital Improvement Projects (Cabinet)

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.