

# DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

## PRESIDENT'S CABINET

### *Minutes*

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**Meeting date: November 3, 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, Mr. Steve McClellan, Ms. Marilyn Read, Dr. Michelle Roberts, Mr. Jeff Slagell, Mr. Mikel Sykes, Dr. Myrtis Tabb, and Ms. Leigh Emerson.

**Members absent:** None

**Guest:** Dr. Beverly Moon, Dean of Graduate Studies

**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on November 3, 2014. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with President LaForge presiding.

#### **GENERAL OVERVIEW:**

- President LaForge met with lawyers on Friday, and he is proceeding with a vigilant defense for the case filed against him by Dr. William Hays.
- President LaForge announced that he had a great day recruiting in the Greenville schools last week. There were lots of DSU alumni at the different schools. He also spoke to the Rotary Club during lunch, and visited with WABG TV. Officials from the television station want to come to campus to do a story on Delta State.
- The Wyatt retention scholarship fundraising is at \$111,000 as of today. We have met the Phase I goal of \$100,000.
- Our football team had a great victory over North Alabama (ranked #3) on Saturday. This could mean that we host the playoffs beginning at noon on the Saturday following Thanksgiving.
- Our men's basketball team will kick off pre-season play this week against Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi, and Jackson State University. This will be good advertisement for Delta State.
- The Executive Committee is still working on the plans to restructure the four corners downstairs. They will bring a plan to Cabinet soon.
- We will host Mississippi College for the first time since the 1990's during our Homecoming Game on November 15. We will invite the Cabinet members for MC, along with some of our alumni who work at MC, to the Dorgan Center. President LaForge asked Cabinet Members to help host everyone.
- Delta State will host the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) Board meeting on October 14-15, 2015.
- President LaForge stated that he received a request for permission to serve wine to the Delta Arts Alliance members before the Choral Concert on December 9. There were no objections from Cabinet Members.
- President LaForge announced that Governor William Winter has agreed to be the Chair of the External Advisory Committee for the Race Conference.

**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 October 27, 2014.

**CABINET TOPIC:**

**Budget Reduction Decisions – Messaging .....President LaForge**

President LaForge distributed the draft letter announcing the budget reductions that will be emailed to campus along with the Q&A fact sheet. He asked Cabinet Members to edit the overall tone of the message, any facts that need to be corrected, and any other edits that need to be made. The updated version will be emailed back to Cabinet for final review before it is sent to the campus on Wednesday.

**BUSINESS:**

**Tuition for Dual Enrollment and On-Campus Dual Credit .....Dr. McAdams**

Dr. McAdams presented a recommendation to change the fee for dual enrollment and dual on-campus credit to the regular hourly tuition rate, minus 20%. This equates to \$602.40 per three-hour course compared to the current rate of \$60 per course.

**Motion:** Moved by Dr. McAdams to approve the fee and seconded by Mr. McClellan. **The motion was approved.**

**Graduate Program Recruitment Plan ..... Dr. McAdams/Dr. Beverly Moon**

Dr. Moon distributed the plan for recruitment strategies and efficiencies for graduate program that a committee comprised of all the Deans and others approved. She asked Cabinet members to review the plan and add information to the niche markets and marketing strategies. She also asked that everyone promote our graduate programs, in addition to our undergraduate programs, wherever they go. Some of these items will need funding, and so she may need help from our different budget areas. The plan will also require help from our Communications and Marketing department for web updates, promotional items, etc.

\*Dr. Moon asked Cabinet Members to submit changes to her by November 10.

**Course/Optional Fees .....Mr. McClellan**

Mr. McClellan distributed a list of the FY 2014-15 Course and Optional Fees and the accounts where the money is being deposited. The fees are approved by Academic Council and Cabinet each year.

**Discussion:**

- President LaForge asked for a status report on the Okra Works Program. Dr. Blansett stated we have three students with jobs at Baxter for next year, and Mr. Davlon Miller (Director of Career Services) is still working on others.
- Dr. Tabb requested that the Pat Tigrett Fashion Show be added to the list of events. The event will raise scholarship dollars for the Delta Music Institute, Fashion Merchandising, and the Liza Vaughn Scholarship.

**INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:**

- Campus Forums, November 6, Staff – 1:00 p.m., Faculty – 3:00 p.m., Jobe Auditorium
- “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
- Race Conference, March 30-31

**NEXT MEETING:**

- Next Cabinet Meeting – November 10, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – Teacher Education (Dr. McAdams/Dr. Leslie Griffin)

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.