

Delta State

Academic Affairs/Provost and VPAA

Delta Center for Culture and Learning

DCCL Mission Statement

Mission statement

To promote the history and culture of the Mississippi Delta and its significance to the rest of the world.

Related Items

There are no related items.

DCCL 01: UO Workshops

Start: 7/1/2011

End: 6/30/2012

User Outcome

Our NEH funded workshops and Levee Board workshops will be successful.

Data Collection (Evidence)

A portfolio was submitted to the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee Board for the Levee Board workshop. Portfolios will be submitted for the NEH funded workshops to be held this June and July. NEH participants complete detailed evaluation forms which must be submitted to NEH with any future funding requests. Portfolios are published at www.blueshighway.org.

Results of Evaluation

Participant evaluations are available online in the portfolios. As of this writing, NEH is satisfied with our workshops and the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee Board has also pledged continuing funding.

Our NEH workshops generate graduate credit hours and enroll new graduate students in DSU's programs. At this point, participants are still enrolling, but these workshops typically enroll at least 20 new graduate students and generate at least 100 credit hours. A final enrollment figure will be reported in the 2012-13 annual report. All workshops produce considerable positive PR for DSU through newspaper, radio, and TV coverage.

Use of Results and Recommendations

We were refunded by NEH (almost \$160,000) and have also reapplied for funding in 2013. We did offer the Levee Board workshop in June of 2011 (although it was so late that it was not included in last year's report), and have been asked to do it again this year.

Related Items

 [SP2.Ind01: Enrollment](#)

 [SP3.Ind06: Diversity](#)

 [SP4.Ind01: IHL reports](#)

 [SP4.Ind03: External resources](#)

 [SP5.Ind02: Continuing Education](#)

 [SP5.Ind03: Campus facilities and space for use by external constituents](#)

 [SP5.Ind04: Cultural offerings](#)

 [SP5.Ind05: Diversity initiatives](#)

 [SP5.Ind06: Community Outreach](#)

 [SP5.Ind07: Economic Development](#)

DCCL 02: UO sustained operation

Start: 7/1/2011

End: 6/30/2012

User Outcome

The Delta Center will continue to operate in an effective manner and provide services to the University and the people of the State of Mississippi.

Data Collection (Evidence)

The DSU Delta Center for Culture and Learning was told in May of 2008 that all staff lines were abolished. Over the course of the next six months, it was further told that its director's salary line was reduced by 50%, and abolished as a salary line, with 50% funding to continue in the 2010-2011 fiscal year, 25% funding in the 2011-2012 fiscal year and 0% funding thereafter. This would effectively close the Delta Center. In June of 2009, the State Legislature set aside \$150,000 to continue support for the Center as a line item in the annual budget. This support was renewed in the budget for 2010-2011, renewed again in the budget for 2011-2012, and most recently renewed again for 2012-2013. This insures the continued operation of the Center through June of 2013, with the exception of our service learning programs which were closed upon the resignation of their coordinator and our failure to re-hire due to budget cuts and hiring freezes.

Results of Evaluation

Partnership initiatives are being developed and funding will be obtained to cover the director's salary line (see below). "Measureable data" is interpreted as dollars raised, as well as programs implemented and products generated.


Use of Results and Recommendations

The Center's staff salaries for the next fiscal year will be paid with funds mandated by the Mississippi Legislature together with additional funds that have been raised through donations in support of the Center and funds obtained from the National Park Service.

Related Items

 [SP1.Ind05: Diversity -- access to diverse ideas/programs](#)

 [SP4.Ind03: External resources](#)

 [SP5.Ind03: Campus facilities and space for use by external constituents](#)

 [SP5.Ind04: Cultural offerings](#)

 [SP5.Ind05: Diversity initiatives](#)

 [SP5.Ind06: Community Outreach](#)

 [SP5.Ind07: Economic Development](#)

 [SP5.Ind08: Area Priorities \(Delta, IHL, or state\)](#)

DCCL 03: UO National Heritage Area

Start: 7/1/2011

End: 6/30/2012

User Outcome

The Delta Center will continue to be the Phase 1 Management Entity for the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area (MDNHA)

Data Collection (Evidence)

This was a competitive process, with the decision made by the Board of the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area Partnership. The Delta Center was named the Phase One Management Entity in March of 2011. Since that time, we have contracted with the National Endowment for Historic Preservation to develop a management plan, and we now supervise the planning process.

Results of Evaluation

We are now the Phase 1 Management Entity, which means that we manage the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area on a day to day basis during the development of our formal management plan.

Use of Results and Recommendations


The mission of the Center remains the same and it will remain housed at DSU, but its daily activities are now completely focused on the daily operation of the National Heritage Area and the successful development of a formal Management Plan that will move the Area from Phase 1 to Phase 2. It will also serve at the will of the MDNHA governing Board (the MDNHA Partnership, as defined in the Federal Lands Management Act of 2009). This is expected to be a three year process. After the MDNHA becomes fully operational in Phase 2, it will likely have its own free-standing operation, which may or may not remain based at DSU depending on the development of the Management Plan and the will of its governing Board. As part of this process, the Mississippi Legislature has provided \$100,000 to the MDNHA for fiscal year 2013.

Related Items

 [SP1.Ind05: Diversity -- access to diverse ideas/programs](#)

 [SP3.Ind02: Salary](#)

 [SP4.Ind03: External resources](#)

 [SP5.Ind03: Campus facilities and space for use by external constituents](#)

 [SP5.Ind04: Cultural offerings](#)

 [SP5.Ind05: Diversity initiatives](#)

 [SP5.Ind06: Community Outreach](#)

 [SP5.Ind07: Economic Development](#)

 [SP5.Ind08: Area Priorities \(Delta, IHL, or state\)](#)

DCCL 2012_01: Sustained operation

Start: 7/1/2011

End: 6/30/2012

Unit Goal

The Delta Center will continue to operate in an effective manner and provide services to the University and the people of the State of Mississippi.

Evaluation Procedures

Since the University will only be spending less than \$20,000 in support of the Center during fiscal year 13, this goal will necessarily be ongoing for all future years. The evaluation procedure will be measured in terms of dollars received from non-DSU sources.

Actual Results of Evaluation

The State Legislature will continue to support the Center's activities. Partnership initiatives, especially through the National Park Service, will be developed and funding will be obtained to cover the director's salary line. "Measureable data" will be interpreted as dollars raised, as well as programs implemented and products generated.


Use of Evaluation Results


The Center's staff salaries for the next fiscal year will be paid with funds mandated by the Mississippi Legislature and other sources. If future funding fails, the Center will probably close. Alternatively, DSU will reconsider its decision and reinstate at least part of the Center's funding. DSU has indeed done this in a minor way by providing approximately \$20,000 in FY2013, an unexpected but welcomed contribution.

Related Items

 [SP4.Ind03: External resources](#)

 [SP5.Ind02: Continuing Education](#)

 [SP5.Ind03: Campus facilities and space for use by external constituents](#)

 [SP5.Ind04: Cultural offerings](#)

 [SP5.Ind05: Diversity initiatives](#)

 [SP5.Ind06: Community Outreach](#)

 [SP5.Ind07: Economic Development](#)

DCCL2012_02: management planning

Start: 7/1/2011

End: 6/30/2012

Unit Goal

The Delta Center will oversee the development of a formal Management Plan for the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area (MDNHA) and will act as the day-to-day manager for the Heritage Area during this process.

Evaluation Procedures

): On August 25, 2011, the Board of the MDNHA authorized a contract with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which will act as consultants during the formulation of a Management Plan. The components of this plan are specified in the Omnibus Federal Land Management Act of 2009. The Delta Center will oversee the process, and will also work through the National Park Service to manage the Heritage Area. \$444,000 is committed by the NPS in support of this planning process, and funding is managed by the Delta Center.

Actual Results of Evaluation

We expect to be able to pay our bills during the fiscal year. The management plan will not be completed until December of 2013, but we do expect it to meet with approval by the Board and the National Park Service.

Use of Evaluation Results

Funds provided by the National Park Service and the Mississippi Legislature to the MDNHA will make up for lost funding from Delta State. The mission of the Center will remain the same and it will remain housed at DSU, but its daily activities will become completely focused on the daily operation of the National Heritage Area and the successful development of a formal Management Plan that will move the Area from Phase 1 to Phase 2. It will also serve at the will of the MDNHA governing Board (the MDNHA Partnership, as defined in the Federal Lands Management Act of 2009). This process is expected to end around December 2013, when the management plan is approved by the NPS and the Board of the MDNHA. The MDNHA will then be fully operational (i.e., in Phase 2). Depending on the outcome of the planning process, the MDNHA may or may not remain based at DSU, and the Delta Center may or may not remain in the role of management entity.

Related Items

 **SP5.Ind02: Continuing Education**

 **SP5.Ind03: Campus facilities and space for use by external constituents**

 **SP5.Ind04: Cultural offerings**

 **SP5.Ind05: Diversity initiatives**

 **SP5.Ind06: Community Outreach**

 **SP5.Ind07: Economic Development**

 **SP5.Ind08: Area Priorities (Delta, IHL, or state)**

Section IV.a

Brief Description

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

The Delta Center for Culture and Learning is an interdisciplinary Center that *promotes the history and culture of the Mississippi Delta and its significance to the rest of the world*. The Center staff includes:

Luther Brown, Director

Heather Kovarcik, Administrative Assistant

Lee Aylward, Program Associate for Education and Community Outreach

Henry Outlaw, unpaid volunteer

Section IV.b

Comparative data

Enrollment, CHP, majors, graduation rates, expenditures, trends, etc.

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Delta State University now provides the Delta Center with less than 10% of its annual operating budget. The remaining 90% is derived from contracts, grants, a line item set-aside in the IHL budget, gifts, and other sources. All programming funds come from sources other than DSU. In this reporting period, the Delta Center received approximately \$250,000 in operating funds from non-university sources.

Section IV.c

Diversity Compliance Initiatives and Progress

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Section IV.d

Economic Development Initiatives and Progress

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

The Delta Center provided assistance for student groups visiting the Delta. This assistance typically involved planning itineraries and developing class curriculum. Classes stayed in the Delta between one day and two months, generally in hotels, eating meals in restaurants. During this time period, we supported the following classes or student research teams:

6 18 11 Heritage tour for Teach for America (TFA) (28)

6 26 11 Heritage tour of Memphis for Robertson Scholars (11)

7 2 11 Heritage tour for Brandeis (15)

7 9 11 Heritage tour for Robertson scholars and TFA (90)

7 25 11 Heritage tour for Calvary MB Church in Renova (45)

8 10 11-8 12 11 Sam Houston State heritage class (14)

10 14 through 16 11 MS Center for Justice heritage tour (50)

10 20 11 St Andrews Episcopal School heritage tour (20)

10 21 11 Heritage tour for Andy Mullins, Tom Franklin and Beth Ann Findley (UMS)

3 3 through 9 UNC Spring Break class (9)

3 9 12 UNC heritage tour (9)

3 5 12 Whittenberg college tour (10)

3 8 through 10 12 Hope Grover (Jennings Community Learning Center, Minnesota New country School) tour (17)

3 12 12 MSU heritage tour (34)

3 14 12 Harvard Univ. tour (7)

4 6 12 Heritage tour for Dr. Keith Collins, Josh Bower, and families (6)

4 17 12 Heritage tour for Lisa Reed (41)

4 27 12 Heritage tour for art instructors (Molly Rushing) (40)

4 28 12 Mississippi National Guard spouses tour (110)

5 22 12 Parks Elementary School tour, 4th grade (50)

6 9 12 Robertson Scholar tour of Clarksdale (7)

6 16 12 Heritage tour for TFA and Robertson Scholars (56)

6 17 12 Memphis tour for Robertson Scholars (7)

For a total of 810 participants who were introduced to the Delta's heritage by the Delta Center

We also presented workshops that drew teachers to Mississippi from across the country: Since our NEH workshops are held the last week of June and the second week of July, these will be included in next year's report. These workshops are highly competitive, and applicants came from 47 states this time. We had 319 applications for the 80 available positions. Many of these applicants will enroll as graduate students in DSU. Most workshop participants stay in local hotels and eat in local restaurants during the six day events.

We also organized multiple musical events and stage productions, the largest of which received funding from the Mississippi Development Authority. This "Thanksgiving Day Blues Bash" employed Jessie Clay, Billy Smiley, DSU Ol' Skool Review, Nathaniel Kimble, and others. We also partially funded an appearance by Jazz great Mose Allison.

We organized the Josie Robertson Day of Service 7/8/11. 25 Robertson Scholars erected a "swift tower" at the Dahomey Wildlife Refuge with the assistance of approximately 10 volunteers from the Friends of Dahomey. A second tower was also built, and later erected on the DSU campus by members of the Friends group.

The Delta Center continued to assist with the establishment of The Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area. The director of the Center plays a major role in the MDNHA, acting as Secretary to the Board, as fiscal agent and now as the Phase One Management Entity.

The Director of the Delta Center is appointed to the Mississippi Blues Commission in its enabling legislation, and regularly attends Commission meetings and participates in Commission decision making. The Delta Center is the fiscal agent for the Commission, and manages a \$1M contract with MDOT as well as the Commission's other operating and grant budgets, and the Mississippi Blues foundations car tag sales and Benevolence budgets.

The Center's Director is a founding member of the Freedom Trail Taskforce, which oversees this new heritage trail.

Section IV.e

Grants, Contracts, Partnerships, Other Accomplishments

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

2011- Support for the Delta Center by the Legislature (IHL set-aside) \$150,000

2011- Support for the Delta Center. Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee Board. \$5,000.

2013- Mississippi Development Authority \$100,000.

2013- National Park Service \$147,000.

2012- National Park Service \$147,000.

2011- National Park Service \$150,000.

2011- Mississippi Development Authority \$50,000.

2011 - Support for the Delta Center for Culture and Learning. Deer Creek Foundation. \$25,000.

2011- Support for the Delta Center for Culture and Learning. City of Cleveland, MS. \$20,000.

2011- Support for a Thanksgiving Day Blues Festival. Mississippi Development Authority. \$5,000.

2012- Support for a Mose Allison Concert. Tri State Educational Foundation. \$1000.

2011- Landmarks in American History and Culture summer workshops for K-12 Teachers. National Endowment for the Humanities. \$158,000.

Section IV.f

Service Learning Data

List of projects, number of students involved, total service learning hours, number of classes, faculty involved, accomplishments.

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Our Service Learning program was closed last year due to budget cuts.

Section IV.g

Strategic Plan Data

Only use this section if you have strategic plan info to report that is not covered in other areas of your report

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

NA

Section IV.h

Committees Reporting To Unit

Each unit includes in the annual plan and report a list of the committees whose work impacts that unit or any other aspect of the university; along with the list will be a notation documenting the repository location of the committee files and records. Committee actions affecting the unit's goals may be noted in other applicable sections of the annual reports. Not required to be included in the unit's annual plan and report, but required to be maintained in the repository location, will be a committee file that includes, for each committee: Mission and by-laws, Membership, Process, Minutes.

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

NA

Section V.a

Faculty (Accomplishments)

Noteworthy activities and accomplishments

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

The Delta Center does not have any faculty.

Section V.b

Staff (Accomplishments)

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Lee Aylward

Community Service has included attendance at ten meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, the annual banquet and as well as the day of planning the work for 2013. I was a volunteer for serving supper for the Little League World Series, and was a host family for the Teach for America community dinners. As a member of the city beautification committee, I attended ten meeting as well as meetings of the tourism committee at the chamber.

With the Robertson Scholars from the University of North Carolina and Duke, I was the liaison for the group. I took them on two heritage tours, one to Clarksdale and one to Memphis as well as coordinating the community dinner for them. I also coordinated their Day of Service which was building a swift tower at Dahomey Wildlife Refuge.

I helped organize the kick-off luncheon for the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area in Stoneville and have attended board meetings throughout the Delta as well as one community meeting.

The Governor's Conference on Tourism and the Mississippi Creative Economy Summit were attended.

I participated or led twenty-one heritage tours for audiences ranging from second graders through the Mississippi Center for Justice.

For the National Endowment for the Humanities workshops, I have handled all set-up and logistics.

Heather Kovarcik

- Successfully ended one MDOT grant for the MS Blues Trail, while implementing another large grant for MDOT for part 2 of the MS Blues Trail and part 1 MS Country Trail.

- Continuing the invoicing and budgeting for the MS Blues Commission

- Processing invoices and budgeting for the MS Delta NHA.

- Preparing for the 2012 NEH Summer Workshops.

- Invoicing and Budgeting for the Delta Center's Foundation, Indirect, and Fund 10 accounts.

- Taught an adjunct position (Consumer Behavior Marketing) in the Fall (I am not sure if that applies to our annual report)

- Active with Staff Council

- Attending MS Delta NHA Meetings

- The Delta Center contributed to the Thanksgiving Feed a family, Christmas Adopt a family, and made a donation to Staff Development Day.

- Keeping a record of all press associated with The Delta Center and the MS Delta NHA

New position(s) requested, with justification: DNA

Section V.c

Administrators (accomplishments)

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Luther Brown

Talks presented (all concerning the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area unless otherwise noted)

6 16 11 Cottonlandia talk on How the Sublime Blues re-creates the Mississippi Delta

8 10 11 Governor's Creative Economy Summit, Jackson

8 11 11 Presentation to the board of Delta Council about the MDNHA

10 27 11 Cleveland Exchange club

12 7 11 Creative Economy Roadshow

1 3 12 Greenville Kiwanis Club

1 4 12 Legislative Luncheon in Jackson

1 6 12 Greenwood Lions Club

1 10 12 Indianola Rotary Club

2 7 12 1st Tuesday presentation at DSU

3 13 12 Cleveland Heritage Commission meeting

3 16 12 Leland Rotary Club

4 3 12 Meeting with DRA and MDA in Clarksdale

4 16 12 Civil Rights Museum planning meeting

4 24 12 WXVT-TV appearance promoting the MDNHA

4 26 12 MHC Grant and Review workshops

4 27 12 Cleveland Lions club

5 9 12 Presentation on Heritage to Your Town, MSU

5 24 12 Leland Lions club

6 7 12 Vicksburg Rotary Club

Professional Development

9 28 11 NPS webinare training on business plan development

9 29 11 NPS webex conference on funding formulae

10 16 through 18 11 NEH workshop training in Washington, DC

11 2 11 NPS webinare on fundraising

Classes and tours

6 18 11 Heritage tour for Teach for America (TFA) (28)

6 26 11 Heritage tour of Memphis for Robertson Scholars (11)

7 2 11 Heritage tour for Brandeis (15)

7 9 11 Heritage tour for Robertson scholars and TFA (90)

7 25 11 Heritage tour for Calvary MB Church in Renova (45)

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3 12 12 MSU heritage tour (34)

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4 17 12 Heritage tour for Lisa Reed (41)

4 27 12 Heritage tour for art instructors (Molly Rushing) (40)

4 28 12 Mississippi National Guard spouses tour (110)
5 22 12 Parks Elementary School tour, 4th grade (50)
6 9 12 Robertson Scholar tour of Clarksdale (7)
6 16 12 Heritage tour for TFA and Robertson Scholars (56)
6 17 12 Memphis tour for Robertson Scholars (7)

Writer's Groups/ PR

6 16 11 Meeting with two German travel writers
7 28 11 on camera interviews with MDTA film makers at Po' Monkey's
4 24 12 WXVT-TV appearance promoting the MDNHA

Projects

We organized the Josie Robertson Day of Service 7/8/11. 25 Robertson Scholars erected a "swift tower" at the Dahomey Wildlife Refuge with the assistance of approximately 10 volunteers from the Friends of Dahomey. A second tower was also built, and later erected on the DSU campus by members of the Friends group.

Other service

Board of the MS Historical Society
Board of the MS Humanities Council, also Vice Chair of the MHC
MS Blues Foundation fiscal agent
MS Blues Commissioner and member of the Benevolence and Marketing Committees
MS Freedom Trail Taskforce founding member
Cleveland Mayor's advisory council
Member of the Education Committee, National Blues Museum, St. Louis, MO
Board member, Friends of Dahomey National Wildlife Refuge (through December, 2011)
Fiscal agent for the MS Blues Commission, MS Blues Foundation, and the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area
Advisor to the Steering Committee of the Southern Literary Trail

Section V.d

Position(s) requested/replaced with justification

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Section V.e

Recommended Change(s) of Status

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Section VI.a

Changes Made in the Past Year

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative

Section VI.b

Recommended Changes for the Coming Year

Judgment

Meets Standards Does Not Meet Standards Not Applicable

Narrative