DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Student Engagement Committee
Tuesday, October 4, 2005
3:00 P.M.

Present: Paul Hankins (Chair), Lynn Byrd, Barry Campbell, Elaine Lambert, and Darlene Crone-Todd.

Absent: Jennie Gunn and Paul Starkey.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Student Engagement Committee was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on October 4, 2005, in Bailey 200 on the DSU campus. Minutes from the previous meeting held on September 27, 2005 were read and approved.

Items Discussed

Revised GST Course
College Specific Workshops
Defining Academic Excellence Conference
Student Engagement Committee Web Page
Institutionalizing Service Learning at Delta State
Conferences for Student Engagement Champions

Detailed Discussion

Revised GST Course

• Paul Hankins contacted Luther Brown to get a status of the revised GST course. Fall 06, one section of the GST course will be used as a “pilot” class to determine if the proposed changes are going to be beneficial to students.
• If results from the pilot class are favorable, all sections of the GST course will conform to the new format.

College Specific Workshops

• The technology workshop, used to satisfy one of unit specific goals for the College of Education, is complete. A workshop was conducted to demonstrate the advantages of using TaskStream.
• Paul Hankins and Barry Campbell will discuss QEP required instructional technology development sessions with Dean Parker, College of Arts and Sciences, recommending workshops on the use of Smart Carts and Smart Classrooms. Per Felix Rizvanov, the needs assessment survey revealed that 82% of the faculty that responded to the survey indicated rarely, if at all, use any kind of computer projection equipment.
• Lynn Byrd and Jennie Gunn are going to conduct Faculty Technology Institute Follow-up Sessions in the College of Business and the School of Nursing, respectively. Felix Rizwanov and the Faculty Technology Institute facilitators and participants will present the sessions.
Defining Academic Excellence Conference

- Greg Hospoder, Assistant Professor of History, recommends that a “Defining Academic Excellence” Conference be held at Delta State. The focus of the conference should determine how DSU faculty defines academic excellence.
- Barry Campbell is going to check with Mark Bonta, chair of the “May We Present” Seminar, and see if sessions of “Defining Academic Excellence” could be incorporated into this seminar.
- Barry Campbell suggested that in addition to faculty participating in this seminar, students could also demonstrate how they feel about academic excellence at Delta State.

Student Engagement Committee Web Page

- Lynn Byrd is working with Robert Bradford, Graduate Assistant in the Department of Accountancy, Computer Information Systems, and Finance Department to develop a web page for the Student Engagement Committee.
- It is recommended that a message board be included within the website for faculty to promote ideas and/or discuss concerns.
- Suggested topics for the SEC web site should be sent to Lynn Byrd.
- Lynn will check with Larkin Simpson to get an email account established for the Student Engagement Champions.

Institutionalizing Service Learning at Delta State

- Paul Starkey has asked Myrtis Tabb to compile a list of local organizations that have close relationships with Delta State.
- Paul Hankins suggested the possibility of the college specific workshops for the spring to focus on institutionalizing service learning as a method of strengthening relations between the community and Delta State. To learn more about institutionalizing service learning, SEC members should do the following:
  - Define projects at DSU that already provide services to the community.
  - Find a class in each major that has a service learning component.
  - Research conference topics and abstracts to generate ideas on institutionalizing service learning.
  - Find professionals in the community to conduct workshops in each discipline.

Conferences for Student Engagement Champions

- SEC members need to research and find conferences to attend to learn more about student engagement.
- Due to the number of sessions presented concurrently during conferences, it was suggested that SEC Champions attend conferences in groups of two or three.
The next SEC meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in Bailey 200. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Byrd