

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Minutes

Meeting date: April 7, 2025

Members in attendance: Dr. Dan Ennis, Ms. Arlene Cash, Dr. Edwin Craft, Dr. Nora Gough-Davis (by phone), Dr. Leslie Griffin, Dr. Eddie Lovin, Mr. Mike Kinnison, Ms. Hayden Kirkhart, Dr. Suzette Matthews, and Ms. Marilyn Read (recorder – Ms. Claire Cole)

Members not in attendance: None

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on April 7, 2025. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Ennis presiding.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Dr. Lovin and seconded by Dr. Matthews, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on March 24, 2025.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Dr. Ennis gave an overview of the activities and events of the last week. Dr. Ennis and Dr. Griffin have been having individual listening sessions with academic departments. Faculty members can express concerns, ask questions, and it is a chance for Dr. Ennis and Dr. Griffin to build relationships within the academic community. Dr. Ennis traveled to Clarksdale to visit with Dr. Valmadge Towner of Coahoma Community College and meet with Coahoma County School District Superintendent Virginia Young. Dr. Ennis and Dr. Griffin attended the Northwest Mississippi Community College Soiree in support of our partnership with the community college and honor a Delta State graduate being honored at the event. Dr. Ennis attended the National Conference on Trusteeship. The F. E. Woodall Conference was hosted on campus last week, and Dr. Griffin received great feedback on the event. Interviews for the deans of the College of Education, Arts, and Humanities and College of Business and Aviation are being held currently. Dr. Lovin shared a report on the Battle of the Bands event held over the weekend.
- Dr. Craft gave an update on Facilities Management projects. Dr. Craft, several Cabinet members, and Facilities Management staff will construct a campus master plan soon. The information provided by Gordian audit will be utilized within the campus master plan. An architect was assigned to the Ward Hall renovation project. After the pre-plan is finalized, the project will go out for a bid. Alternates for the Walter Sillers Coliseum renovation are being finalized, and the project will go out for a bid soon. The elevator for the BPAC ADA project arrived, and it will be installed soon. The ARPA project continues, and the campus's clay pipes are being lined to prevent damage. The insurance company and architect have come to an agreement on the hail damage to the university's roofs, and the architect can begin repairs.
- Mr. Kinnison gave an update on Athletics. The tennis teams are hosting Christian Brothers University today, and they host Mississippi College on Thursday. Spring football practice continues, and the team

practices on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. The baseball team hosts the University of Arkansas-Monticello tomorrow, and the softball team hosts Henderson State University on Wednesday. Both teams host Trevecca Nazarene University this weekend. The Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is on Friday evening in Jobe Hall. The former athletes being inducted are Miriam Bell Black (basketball), Sarita Cooper-White (basketball), Rob Davis (football), Andy Dillard (baseball), Pete Golding (football), Brad Latham (football), Kasey Perkins Penrod (swimming/diving), and Matt Sellers (golf).

- Ms. Kirkhart gave an update on the Student Government Association. The SGA elections concluded last week, and Ms. Kirkhart was reelected SGA President for a second term. Appointed positions for SGA and Student Court applications are open. The Big Green Event was rained out over the weekend and is now scheduled for April 26. Ms. Kirkhart provided an overview of the events occurring this weekend during Go Green Weekend.
- Dr. Ennis gave an overview of the week. Dr. Ennis and Dr. Griffin are travelling to Rosedale tomorrow to meet the Superintendent of the West Bolivar County School District. The Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meets on Tuesday. Dr. Ennis and Dr. Matthews are meeting the new Executive Director of the Delta Regional Foundation on Thursday. ZZ Top performs at the BPAC on Thursday. The Delta State Foundation Board of Directors meeting is Friday at 10:00 a.m.

CABINET TOPIC

None

BUSINESS

Action

Staff Emeritus..... Ms. Read

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Administrative Staff Council, Ms. Read recommended six staff members to receive the designation of emeritus. All staff members were recommended and approved for emeritus status by their supervisors.

Motion: Moved by Ms. Read to approve six staff members receiving emeritus status and seconded by Dr. Craft. The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion

Legislative Update Dr. Ennis

Dr. Ennis provided Cabinet members with a legislative update. The legislative session adjourned without approving the budget for FY26. A special session will be called by Governor Reeves later.

Enrollment Update Ms. Cash

Ms. Cash gave an update on enrollment and the Office of Admissions event schedule. The goal for first-year, full-time students for Fall 2025 are three hundred students, and the goal for transferring students is one hundred students in Fall 2025.

Performance Evaluation Timeline for FY25..... Dr. Craft

Dr. Craft shared with Cabinet members the performance evaluation timeline for FY25. All signed performance evaluations are due to Human Resources on May 19. Dr. Craft asked Cabinet members for assistance in advocating for performance evaluations to be conducted appropriately, and employee performance accurately reported.

Phishing Prevention..... Dr. Craft

Dr. Craft shared with Cabinet members that the Office of Information Technology released a phishing campaign, and 187 employees clicked on the phishing attempt. To assist in employees' knowledge of cyber security, additional training will be released in the coming weeks.

Budget Update Dr. Craft

Dr. Craft and his staff met are reviewing the budget worksheets, and the worksheets will be returned soon. The Accounting Department's year end reminders about spending will be disseminated soon, and the reminders can be seen below.

Activity	Deadline
Start reviewing financial activity within your fund/org through Banner and/or Argos	On-going
Last day to submit requisitions for Fund 10 (E&G) and Designated Accounts (108XXX) in FY25	Thursday, May 15, 2025
Last day to use credit cards (P Cards & T Cards) for FY25 unless you are traveling in the month of June *No personal credit card charges/reimbursements without prior approval	Friday, May 30, 2025
Last day to submit requisitions for Grant Funds (3XXXXX) in FY25	Monday, June 23, 2025
FY25 Last Day to Submit Invoices	Wednesday, July 9, 2025

INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:

- ZZ Top, April 10, 7:30 p.m., BPAC
- DSU Foundation Board of Directors Meeting, April 11
- Go Green Weekend, April 11-12
- Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, April 11, 7:00 p.m., Jobe Auditorium
- Good Friday, April 18
- Bolivar County Alumni Chapter Seafood Boil, May 1
- Greater Jackson Area Alumni Happy Hour, May 15
- Starkville/Golden Triangle Area Alumni Happy Hour, May 22

- Mississippi on the Mall (Washington, D.C.), May 31
- Leflore County Alumni Happy Hour, June 5
- Hattiesburg Alumni Happy Hour, June 11
- Gulf Coast Alumni Happy Hour, June 12
- Desoto County Alumni Happy Hour, June 19
- Night of Champions, August 8
- Pig Pickin' Weekend, September 5-6
- Foundation Scholarship Reception, October 16
- Foundation Board of Directors Meeting, October 17
- DSU 40 Under 40, October 17
- Delta State Homecoming, October 18

NEXT MEETING:

- Next Cabinet Meeting – Monday, April 7, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – TBD

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.