

# DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

## PRESIDENT’S CABINET

### *Minutes*

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**Meeting date:** January 13, 2025

**Members in attendance:** Dr. Dan Ennis, Dr. Nora Gough-Davis, Dr. Eddie Lovin, Dr. Suzette Matthews, Mr. Mike Kinnison, Ms. Arlene Cash, and Dr. Leslie Griffin  
(recorder – Ms. Claire Cole)

**Members not in attendance:** Dr. Edwin Craft and Ms. Amber Hays

**Guests:** None

**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the President’s Cabinet was held in the President’s Conference Room on January 13, 2025. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Ennis presiding.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On motion by Dr. Matthews and seconded by Dr. Lovin, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on December 16, 2024.

#### **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

- Dr. Ennis gave an overview of the activities and events of the last week. The Mississippi Legislature opened, and Dr. Ennis spent time in Jackson meeting with legislators and Delta State alumni.
- Mr. Kinnison gave an update on Athletics. The basketball teams host Mississippi College on Saturday. The swimming and diving teams travel to Louisiana State University on January 24 for a meet. The baseball team begins their season on January 31, and the softball team begins their season on February 8. The golf team begins their season in February. The men’s tennis team begins scrimmages in February, and the women’s tennis team competes in an exhibition this weekend. The Athletics Department continues to discuss the best option for our football program beginning in Fall 2026. We will continue to be a part of the Gulf South Conference for football in Fall 2025.
- Dr. Ennis gave an overview of the week. Dr. Ennis will travel to Jackson again this week for legislative meetings on Tuesday, and he will travel to Nashville, TN on Wednesday for the NCAA Convention. The IHL Board of Trustees meets on Thursday.

#### **CABINET TOPIC**

None

#### **BUSINESS**

##### **Action**

**Address Change policy (revised – final reading)..... Dr. Griffin**  
On behalf of Academic Affairs, Dr. Griffin brought the Address Change policy to the Cabinet for a final

reading. The area responsible was changed from Student Affairs to Academic Affairs.

**Motion:** Moved by Dr. Griffin to approve the Address Change policy for a final reading and seconded by Dr. Lovin. The motion passed unanimously.

**Awarding Degrees Posthumously policy (revised – final reading)..... Dr. Griffin**

On behalf of the Academic Council, Dr. Griffin brought the revised Awarding Degrees Posthumously policy to Cabinet for a final reading. For a student to be awarded a degree posthumously, they must have finished 75% of their course requirements.

**Motion:** Moved by Dr. Griffin to approve the revised Awarding Degrees Posthumously policy and seconded by Dr. Lovin. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Student Publications policy (revised – final reading)..... Dr. Griffin**

On behalf of the Academic Council, Dr. Griffin brought the Student Publications policy to the Cabinet for a final reading. The area responsible was changed from Student Affairs to Academic Affairs. Communications and Marketing will assist in advising both publications.

**Motion:** Moved by Dr. Griffin to approve the revised Student Publications policy and seconded by Dr. Lovin. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion**

**Hiring Requests ..... Cabinet Members**

In following the hiring guidance set forth by Dr. Ennis, Cabinet members presented their requests for review. After review by Cabinet members, Dr. Griffin and Dr. Craft will meet with Dr. Ennis to provide added context as to the need for the given position or positions prior to Dr. Ennis granting or denying hiring approval.

**Academic Affairs requests**

Dr. Griffin requested to search for and hire a Senior Secretary in the School of Management, Marketing, and Business Administration in the College of Business and Aviation, and she requested to hire Lead Teachers in the Child Development Center. All positions are replacements.

Dr. Ennis provided an update on all positions approved for hiring since the last Cabinet meeting.

**Enrollment Update ..... Ms. Cash**

Ms. Cash provided Cabinet members with an update on the recruiting efforts of the Office of Admissions staff, and she provided a comparison of numbers from this time last year. Additionally, the Slate software will be in use by end of January.

**INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:**

- Spring classes begin, January 16, 2025
- State Room Renaming Ceremony, January 18, 1:00 p.m., State Room
- Martin Luther King Holiday, January 20, 2025

**NEXT MEETING:**

- Next Cabinet Meeting – Monday, January 27, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – TBD

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.