

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Minutes

Meeting date: August 14, 2017

Members in attendance: President William LaForge, Dr. George Beals, Dr. Vernell Bennett, Dr. Dave Breaux, Mr. Patrick Hundley, Mr. Ronnie Mayers, Dr. Charles McAdams, Dr. Michelle Roberts, Mr. Jamie Rutledge, and Ms. Caitlyn Thompson (Ms. Claire Cole – recorder)

Members not in attendance: Ms. Ashley Griffin

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on August 14, 2017. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with President LaForge presiding.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Rutledge, seconded by Dr. McAdams, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on July 31, 2017.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Mr. Hundley gave an overview of the Greenwood-Leflore County Alumni and Desoto County Alumni meetings. He stated both were great events and had a good turnout. The Greenwood-Leflore County Alumni gave out their first scholarships. Mr. Hundley informed Cabinet Members that stipulations and expectations are being revamped for alumni chapters.
- President LaForge asked Mr. Mayers to give a recap of the Football Family Bash. Mr. Mayers stated the event went very well, and they had a great turnout. The program raised more funds than last year.
- President LaForge attended a dinner in recognition of the sculptors chosen to showcase their artwork in the Sanders Sculpture Garden, GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi, and downtown Cleveland. Mrs. Nan Sanders hosts this event every two years to showcase new artwork in Cleveland. Mr. Mayers informed Cabinet Members that a sculpture located downtown, called Broken Arrow, was created by a Delta State student, Mr. Lawson King, in memory of Dr. Ethan Schmidt. President LaForge suggested that we publish a story on this sculpture.
- President LaForge attended the NCAA Division II President's Council meeting last week in Indianapolis. Commissioners for the DII conferences were invited to attend, and Gulf South Conference Commissioner Matt Wilson was in attendance. President LaForge reported that several discussions revolved around concussion incidents. President LaForge made a motion at the meeting to change the decision that pre-determined post-season events can't be hosted in Mississippi due to the state flag.
- The Cleveland Music Foundation Board met last week. GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi continues to show great progress with membership, sales of merchandise and tickets, and rentals. A new exhibit will open soon to honor Mr. John Lee Hooker.
- Dr. Bennett informed Cabinet Members that the Formal New Member Recruitment for Panhellenic ended today. We had 77 women (out of 82) to receive a bid today – 25 new members for Phi Mu Fraternity, 27 new members for Delta Delta Delta Sorority, and 25 new members for Kappa Delta

Sorority. Continuous Open Bidding will begin tomorrow. IFC recruitment begins on August 29.

- Mr. Rutledge gave an update on Facilities Management projects. The first meal in the temporary cafeteria was served Monday morning to approximately 200 students. Construction on Young-Mauldin Cafeteria begins on September 1. The change order for Zeigel Hall was approved, and construction has resumed. Construction on Statesmen Boulevard continues.
- Mr. Mayers gave an update on Athletics. Several teams are on campus for pre-season practices including football, men and women's soccer, and cross-country. Mr. Mayers plans to attend a meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Cleveland School District tonight to request usage of the Cleveland Central High School football field for Delta State's September 2 game in case our field is still under construction.
- President LaForge gave an overview of the upcoming week's activities. He will travel to Lake Village, AR on Tuesday to speak to the IMPACT Greek Conference. On Wednesday and Thursday, President LaForge will attend the IEO and IHL Board meetings in Jackson. On Thursday afternoon, President LaForge will give his State of the University address at Convocation. That evening, the Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce will host the Welcome Back Reception at The Warehouse. On Friday, President and Mrs. LaForge, along with the Administrative Staff Council, will host the Convocation Luncheon, which is generously sponsored by Delta Regional Foundation. President LaForge will speak to incoming freshmen attending the DMI Boot Camp on Friday afternoon.
- Dr. Roberts reminded Cabinet Members of the Pre-Convocation gathering in the Green Room on Thursday. This event will begin at 2:30 p.m. and is an opportunity for comradeship with fellow university leaders prior to the start of Convocation
- Dr. Bennett informed Cabinet Members that Welcome Week begins on Monday, August 21. Events during the week include waterworks and a foam party on Monday; an organization fair and a movie on the Quadrangle on Tuesday; a skating party at Spinners, with transportation provided, on Wednesday; a carnival on the Quadrangle with novelties, food trucks, and rides on Thursday; swim and cinema party and a DJ at the pool on Friday; and, a campus party in Wyatt Gym on Saturday.
- President LaForge will teach his Leadership Class again this year. There are fifteen student leaders enrolled in the class. The course lasts nine weeks and will include guest speakers of Dr. McAdams, Mr. Weezy Rogers, Mr. Justin Huerta, Ms. Betsy Aguzzi (tentative), and Mayor Errick Simmons.
- Next week, President and Mrs. LaForge will attend the BPAC performance of Jason Isbell. President LaForge reminded Cabinet Members he uses his tickets as part of his outreach efforts.
- Mr. Hundley informed Cabinet Members the Foundation Board will meet on Friday, August 25. During the meeting, Mr. Hundley will present his ideas for improving the financial status of their operations, the overall growth for the Alumni-Foundation, and his thoughts on changes to policies affecting the Foundation Board.

CABINET TOPIC

- None

BUSINESS

Action

Use of Removable Media and Mobile Computing Devices policy – new (final reading) Mr. Rutledge
Mr. Rutledge brought to Cabinet the Use of Removable Media and Mobile Computing Devices policy for a final reading. This policy establishes safeguards for using removable media in conjunction with Delta State's computing resources and data. Appropriate security of all removable media, whether owned by

Delta State or by individuals, is required to prevent the spread of viruses, the loss or compromise of sensitive data, and other risks to the Delta State network. If an employee of Delta State downloads files from a Delta State owned computer, the information will automatically be encrypted. All Delta State owned computing devices and personal computing devices, including cellphones, must be protected with a password if official business is conducted on the device.

Motion: Moved by Mr. Rutledge to approve the Use of Removable Media and Mobile Computing Devices policy for a final reading and seconded by Dr. Dave Breaux. **The motion was approved.**

Amorous Relationships policy – new (final reading)..... Mr. Rutledge

Mr. Rutledge brought to Cabinet the Amorous Relationships policy for a final reading. Under the advisement of general counsel at IHL, the Office of Human Resources created this policy. This policy addresses amorous relationships between employees and between employees and students, as well as the actions that must be taken to address such relationships. Amorous relationships can undermine the University’s mission when persons in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority.

Motion: Moved by Mr. Rutledge to approve the Amorous Relationships policy for a final reading and seconded by Mr. Mayers. **The motion was approved.**

Employee Separation/Transfer Clearance policy – revision (final reading)..... Mr. Rutledge

Mr. Rutledge brought the Employee Separation/Transfer Clearance policy to Cabinet for an amendment to the policy to include retirees. If requested, an email address for retirees will be provided with an address of username@retiree.deltastate.edu. This email will provide limited access to the University email system. Mr. Rutledge included the Retiree Benefits policy in the Related Documents section.

Motion: Moved by Mr. Rutledge to approve the Employee Separation/Transfer Clearance policy for a final reading and seconded by Dr. Roberts. **The motion was approved.**

IHL’s Appendix 8 – New Degree Proposal: Complete 2 Compete – Adult Degree Completion Program – B.S. in General Studies.....Dr. McAdams

The Complete 2 Compete (C2C) Initiative statewide program was developed to encourage Mississippi adults who have completed some college, but earned no degree, to return to college and finish what they started. The Adult Degree Completion Program provides adult learners with a flexible path to a bachelor’s degree. The Program is intended to serve adult learners who have earned at least 90 credit hours but have not completed a baccalaureate degree and have not attended a postsecondary institution in the past 24 months, based on last date of attendance. This policy was designed to allow all IHL institutions to have an adult degree completion program. Delta State’s program will be a Bachelor of Science in General Studies, and no additional faculty or curriculum is needed. Dr. Karen Bell will be the primary advisor. A marketing firm will contact students about the opportunity and promote the program. This program gives Delta State more alumni, gives students a boost in job opportunities, and gives the state a better statistic of graduates. There are two advantages for students enrolling through this program: (1) a grade forgiveness policy and (2) a payment plan option for bad debt. IHL provided Delta State with \$25,000 to help implement this program.

Motion: Moved by Dr. McAdams to approve this program and seconded by Dr. Breaux. **The motion was approved.**

Discussion

Student Move-In DayDr. Bennett

Dr. Bennett informed Cabinet Members that Student Move-In Day is Sunday, August 20 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Dr. Bennett stated volunteers are needed in all areas for the 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. time slot. If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact Mr. Michael Lipford. President LaForge asked Dr. Bennett to draft a paragraph about the need for volunteers so that Cabinet Members can send the information to their constituencies.

Additional Information

- Mr. Rutledge announced the new manager of Aramark will begin work full-time on September 1.
- President LaForge announced the next Colloquia Series speaker will be Dr. Rod Paige, former U.S. Secretary for Education for President George Bush. The tentative date for the Colloquia is Tuesday, October 10.

INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:

- Convocation, August 17, 3:00 pm, BPAC
- Chamber of Commerce’s Welcome Back Reception, August 17, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., The Warehouse Restaurant
- Welcome Back luncheon, August 18, 12:00 noon, Second Floor, H.L. Nowell Union
- Student Move-In Day, August 20, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., Young-Mauldin Cafeteria
- Day and night classes begin, August 21
- Welcome Week, August 21-25

NEXT MEETING:

- Next Cabinet Meeting – Monday, August 28
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – Cabinet Advance recap (President LaForge)

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.