

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Minutes

Meeting date: September 5, 2023

Members in attendance: Dr. Dan Ennis, Dr. Ellen Green, Dr. Christopher Jurgenson, Mr. Mike Kinnison, Dr. Eddie Lovin, Ms. Holly Ray, Dr. Michelle Roberts, Ms. Haley Rooks, and Mr. Larry Wakefield (recorder – Ms. Claire Cole)

Members not in attendance: Mr. Rick Munroe

Guests: Dr. Edwin Craft, Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration
Dr. Lori Spencer, Chief of Staff, University Advancement

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on September 5, 2023. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Ennis presiding.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Dr. Lovin and seconded by Ms. Rooks, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on August 28, 2023.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Dr. Ennis gave an overview of the activities and events from last week. The Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce held their Annual Banquet last week. Dr. Ennis and Dr. Leslie Griffin met with Dr. Bob Ferguson of Tri State Educational Foundation. Dr. and Mrs. Ennis hosted a dinner for Mayor Billy Nowell and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sanders. Delta State alumnus Steve Azar invited Dr. Ennis to participate in an episode of his "In a Mississippi Minute" podcast. Dr. Ennis attended the world premiere of "The Harvest" that details the integration of Leland public schools. A retirement celebration was held for Facilities Management Director Gerald Finley. The regional leadership of Sodexo Operations visited Delta State last week and spoke to the university's administration.
- Mr. Kinnison gave an update on Athletics. The football team won their first game of the season against Missouri S&T over the weekend, and they travel to North Carolina this week for a game against Chowan University on Saturday. The women's soccer team competed against Missouri S&T and University of Tampa over the weekend. They travel to Clayton State University today and Lincoln Memorial University on Thursday. The men's soccer team competed against Eckerd College and Florida Southern College over the weekend, and they host Ouachita Baptist University and Harding University on Friday and Sunday, respectively. The cross country team competed at Mississippi College over the weekend, and they travel to University of North Alabama this weekend. The coliseum floor is being refinished for the upcoming basketball seasons.
- Ms. Rooks gave an update on student activities. The Student Senate and Student Court met for the first time last week. The Student Senate is working on two bills, and Ms. Rooks is optimistic it will be brought before the Cabinet this semester.
- Dr. Ennis shared with Cabinet members some of the meetings and events planned for this week. The Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting this

morning. On Wednesday, Dr. Ennis travels to Greenville for lunch with a donor, and he will host potential donors for lunch on Thursday. The Commodores perform at the BPAC on Thursday. Dr. Ennis will be the guest speaker for Cleveland’s Noon Lions Club on Friday.

CABINET TOPIC

Cabinet Advance recap Dr. Ennis

Dr. Ennis provided to Cabinet members the draft Cabinet Advance notes and associated follow up items. He asked Cabinet members to review the notes and to follow through on next steps.

BUSINESS

Action

Health Center policy (revised – final reading) Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the revised Health Center policy to Cabinet for a final reading. The O. W. Reily Health Center provides health care services to students and employees. Students are offered medicine and medical services for no additional expense. Assessment and treatment for minor, non-emergent injuries are available for employees, based upon availability of the nurse practitioner/medical provider.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Lovin to approve the revised Health Center policy for a final reading and seconded by Ms. Rooks. The motion was approved.

Traffic and Parking policy (revised – final reading) Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the revised Traffic and Parking policy to Cabinet for a final reading. Dr. Lovin revised the Traffic and Parking policy based on suggestions made by Cabinet members: changing parking permit to parking decal throughout the policy and change all “days” within the policy to “business days.” Dr. Lovin worked with Ms. Rooks on the section on appeals for students to match the Student Government Association bylaws, and Dr. Lovin confirmed immobilization procedure with the Campus Police Department. An additional edit was made to the parking restriction for Zone 1 to conclude at 5:00 p.m. instead of 2:30 p.m.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Lovin to approve the revised Traffic and Parking policy for a final reading and seconded by Ms. Rooks. The motion was approved.

Housing and Residence Life policy (new – final reading) Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Housing and Residence Life policy to Cabinet for a final reading. This new policy incorporates all policies and regulations of Housing and Residence Life that have been procedural in nature.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Lovin to approve the new Housing and Residence policy for a final reading and seconded by Dr. Jurgenson. The motion was approved.

Discussion

Budget Update Mr. Wakefield

The budget book was printed, and it was uploaded to the website. Delta State employees can view the budget book with their single sign on credentials.

Recruitment Update/Overview..... Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin provided an enrollment update based on the Enrollment Trends report provided by Ms. Chrisa Mansell in Institutional Research, Effectiveness, and Planning. Delta State’s enrollment on the 15th day of classes was 2,785, and 2,495 without dual credit students. The full-time equivalent for Fall 2023 is 2,322, and 2,201 without dual credit. At this time last year, enrollment on the fifteenth day was 2,586, and 2,390 without dual credit.

Institutional Effectiveness and Planning Dr. Ennis

Dr. Ennis shared with Cabinet members the SACSCOC reaffirmation report will be submitted this afternoon for the September 8 deadline, and he believes the university will have findings. Until SACSCOC provides a response to our reaffirmation, the university can work on areas with shortcoming to prepare for the SACSCOC On-site visit in February. Dr. Ennis commended the writing team for their hard work on completing the reaffirmation packet. Along with working on any findings by SACSCOC, Dr. Ennis would like to pivot to creating a new strategic plan for the university.

INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:

- The Commodores, September 7, 7:30 p.m., BPAC
- Coahoma County Welcomes DSU President, September 12, 6:00 p.m., Clarksdale, MS
- Meet the Author and Book Signing Event with Nyani Nkrumah, September 13, 6:00 p.m., Story Books (Downtown Cleveland)
- Book Signing Reception with Nyani Nkrumah, September 13, 7:30 p.m., President’s Home
- Delta State’s 98th Anniversary Celebration, September 15, 12:00 p.m., Lena Roberts Sillers Chapel

NEXT MEETING:

- Next Cabinet Meeting – Monday, September 11, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – TBD

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m.