

# DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

## PRESIDENT'S CABINET

### *Minutes*

---

**Meeting date: March 9, 2015**

**Members in attendance:** President William LaForge, Dr. Wayne Blansett, Mr. Keith Fulcher, Dr. David Hebert, Dr. Charles McAdams, Mr. Steve McClellan, Ms. Marilyn Read, Dr. Michelle Roberts, Mr. Jeff Slagell, and Ms. Leigh Emerson.

**Absent:** Dr. Debbie Heslep, Mr. Ronnie Mayers, Mr. Mikel Sykes, and Dr. Myrtis Tabb

**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the President's Cabinet was held in the President's Conference Room on March 9, 2015. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. with President LaForge presiding.

#### **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

- President LaForge announced that he spoke to the Greenwood Lions Club Youth Leadership Group last week. Students in attendance were from five high schools in Leflore and Carroll counties. He had the opportunity to pitch Delta State, and several of the students said they were planning to attend.
- President LaForge, Delta State representatives, and community members met with Dr. Lance Line to discuss a possible concert/festival to be held in Cleveland in 2016, similar to Bonnaroo. Dr. Line is working on getting the finances together. The event would benefit Delta State in the long term with scholarship money.
- President LaForge thanked everyone for their participation with the Colloquia Lecture Series with guest speaker Justice Leslie King. Justice King commented on how well received he was. He met lots of students and was the guest for President LaForge's Fireside Chat. Unfortunately, several class visits and a luncheon were cancelled due to the weather.
- President LaForge held his monthly First Friday Faculty meetings, and he met with Mr. Chip Mitchell and Ms. Arlene Sanders.
- President LaForge discussed a fundraising proposal that was submitted to Mr. David Abney without the Foundation's knowledge. He stressed the importance of coordinating all fundraising efforts with the Foundation office.
- President LaForge discussed articles that have been written recently by out-of-state universities regarding cuts to the Journalism program and student newspaper. Apparently, this issue was discussed at the recent Southeast Journalism Conference.
- President LaForge will attend the "IHL Day at the Capitol" event on Thursday. It is an annual event where all universities setup display tables for legislators to see the different programs. Also, the winning student team from each university will be there for the Blueprint Mississippi Social Business Challenge.
- President LaForge discussed the end of the basketball season. The Lady Statesmen lost in the Gulf South Conference Championship to Union University, and they didn't make it into the top eight for the playoffs. It was a very good season for both the Statesmen and Lady Statesmen basketball teams.
- President LaForge discussed the difficult time the Statesmen Baseball and Lady Statesmen Softball teams are having with being able to play games due to inclement weather.

- Dr. McAdams announced that Ms. Becky Finley has accepted the position of Registrar, effective April 1. She has served as interim Registrar for the last several months.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On motion by Mr. McClellan, seconded by Dr. Blansett, all Cabinet Members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on March 2, 2015.

**CABINET TOPIC**

**Cabinet Planning Guide..... Cabinet**  
 Cabinet members reviewed and updated the Cabinet Planning Guide in the areas of (1) Enrollment and Student Success, (2) Student Financial Support, (3) Student Housing, and (4) Student Involvement and Experiences.

President LaForge inquired about the opportunity to establish a relationship with Brazil for international recruiting.

\* Dr. McAdams said he will look into establishing a partnership with Brazil.

President LaForge asked Mr. Fulcher if we are spending all of the Kyle Foundation funding. Delta State receives \$100,000 in spendable funds and \$50,000 for the match program each year. The suggestion was made to request from the Kyle Foundation an increase in the \$50,000 match program.

\* Keith will provide a status report on the expenditures and balance of this fund, and he will talk with them about the opportunity to increase the amount for the match program.

**BUSINESS**

**Sustainability Committee..... Mr. McClellan**  
 Mr. McClellan stated that IHL Board Policy 920 “Sustainability Policy” requires us to have an Energy Management Committee, and so he will process the needs through that committee instead of having two different committees.

**Discussion**

- Ms. Read announced that the Alumni-Foundation office will sponsor a “Snacks for Staff” day on Wednesday, March 11 from 10:00 - 11:30 am. Cookies and coffee will be served.

**INFORMATIONAL/CALENDAR ITEMS:**

- Student Lunch with Legislators (Brown Bag), Wednesday, March 18th, 11:30 am-1:00 pm, State Capitol
- Go Green Weekend, March 27-28, Campus
- Race Conference, March 30-31
- Retirement and Service Award Program, April 24, 2:00 pm. Union 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lobby
- Staff Development Day, May 14, Jacob Conference Center/Walking Trail

**NEXT MEETING:**

- Next Cabinet Meeting – Monday, March 16, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.
- Next Cabinet Meeting Topic – Cabinet Planning Guide: (1) Finances, (2) Athletics, (3) Employees

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.