

**DELTA COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DINNER MEETING  
September 8, 2015  
Delta College Ricker Center**

**Board Present:** R. Emrich, K. Lawrence-Webster, D. Middleton, M. Morrissey, M. Nash, M. Rowley, E. Selby

**Board Absent:** K. Houston-Philpot, D. Wacksman

**Others Present:** A. Anderson, J. Bamberg, R. Battinkoff, T. Betancourt, T. Boudrot, T. Brown, J. Carroll, P. Clark, E. Crane, R. Curry, M. Finney, L. Gagnon, M. Gmeiner, J. Goodnow, L. Govitz, M. Hernandez-Alaniz, D. Lutz, M. Moore, M. Mosqueda, J. Neal, D. Nelson, E. Nelson, K. Nelson, D. Peruski, G. Przygocki, L. Ramseyer, K. Schuler, L. Ullrich, A. Ursuy

**Press Present:** J. Hall, WSGW; G. Horner, Delta Collegiate; K. Skrzypczak, Delta Collegiate

Board Chair M. Rowley called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

M. Rowley then turned the meeting over to Liz Ullrich, Chair of the Faculty Executive Committee. L. Ullrich presented Board members with two articles, one from the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), *Faculty Communication with Governing Boards: Best Practices*, and one from the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), *Faculty, Governing Boards, and Institutional Governance*.

L. Ullrich noted that there were common conclusions between the two articles. Some of the themes from the AGB included:

“Common themes were found among all respondents’ comments describing negative or bad interactions:

- interaction between faculty and trustees is infrequent and contentious when issues arise;
- trustees are viewed by faculty through an adversarial labor vs. management lens;
- faculty are viewed by trustees as privileged, too powerful, and overpaid;
- there’s no structure to develop strong relationships or to interact;
- the faculty body isn’t structured properly and fails to make meaningful recommendations to the board;
- the contact faculty do have with trustees is used to lobby for personal interests or to complain, which turns trustees off;

- there's not enough time – board members are out of town between board meetings, and agendas leave little time for interaction at meetings;
- there's confusion about respective roles and lack of knowledge about respective activities; and
- faculty respect the board, but sense that the board doesn't respect the role of faculty in governance.”

Recommendations from the AAUP included the following:

“The present report has thus recommended the following:

1. Every standing committee of the governing board, including the executive committee, should include a faculty representative.
2. New faculty representatives to the governing board should participate in orientation for new trustees.
3. Direct communication between the faculty and the governing board should occur through a liaison or conference committee consisting only of faculty members and trustees and meeting regularly to discuss topics of mutual interest.”

L. Ullrich noted that the recommendations would help to enhance the trust and respect between the Board and the faculty. R. Selby asked if there was a problem with communication. L. Ullrich noted that there is a desire for more conversation and faculty want their voices heard in order to improve communication.

R. Emrich noted that the faculty already have an avenue for communication and that they should use it. M. Rowley mentioned that all Board meetings are open for the public and provide an opportunity for public comment. M. Nash noted a concern for equality for the opportunity for communication with Support Staff and Administrative/Professional Staff.

Board members also met with members of the Executive Committee for A/P Staff (ECAPS), the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) and the Support Staff Executive Committee (SSEC) for informal discussion over dinner.

Kristy Nelson, Director of Learning Centers provided Board members with a tour of the Delta College Ricker Center.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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Talisa Brown, Assistant Board Secretary

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Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary