

**DELTA COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DINNER MEETING
January 10, 2017
Delta College Main Campus Room N7**

BOARD PRESENT: M. Benecke, A. Buckley, R. Emrich, D. Middleton, M. Morrissey, M. Nash, M. Rowley, E. Selby

BOARD ABSENT: K. Lawrence-Webster

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Bamberg, R. Battinkoff, Q. Beckman, V. Bledsoe, L. Brown, T. Brown, W. Burns, J. Carroll, P. Clark, T. Clegg, R. Curley, A. Ginter, J. Goodnow, L. Govitz, S. Lewless, D. Lutz, C. McMath, J. Miller, M. Mosqueda, D. Phelps, G. Przygocki, L. Ramseyer, N. Ryan, K. Schuler, S. Schultz, A. Ursuy, B. Webb, M. White

PRESS PRESENT: J. Hall, WSGW; B. Henika, Delta Collegiate

Board Chair, M. Rowley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. M. Rowley then turned the meeting over to Margaret Mosqueda who then introduced the Dean of Students, Jonathan Miller who oversees the Office of Student and Civic Engagement.

J. Miller then introduced Alison Ginter, Coordinator of Campus Life and Student Engagement. A. Ginter shared with the Board the Delta College Clubs and Organization's mission statement, goals and visions. There are currently 33 clubs on campus and it continues to grow each semester. She noted the diversity in the groups from UNISON – a club that amplifies the voice of the LGBTQ community and their allies to the Hogwarts Club which is all about Harry Potter.

A. Ginter gave an overview of all of the service projects which totaled 41 just for Fall of 2016. There were over 400 volunteers logging more than 8,636 hours at a value of \$203,464.16. In regards to fundraising the clubs have raised over \$50,000 for Fall 2016. A. Ginter highlighted some of the efforts being made by Student Engagement Programming. They offer various campus life activities and events, along with Battle of the Freshman, Financial Literacy Week, Student Success Fair and a Mentor Program.

Finally, A. Ginter noted that students who are involved in clubs and organizations are better rounded because of their interaction in the community, their service projects, the leadership initiatives and all the collaboration. These students also help to build and sustain a community on campus and help increase student retention.

J. Miller noted that the Multicultural Office went most of the year with a vacancy. He then introduced Carlos McMath, the new Student Diversity and Leadership Coordinator. The purpose of this area is to offer a wide range of services and activities designed to support students with multicultural backgrounds and experiences. They also focus on the recruitment and retention of these students as well as offering presentations, activities and performances that encourage the understanding of diversity, inclusion and social justice. Programming includes events such as Hispanic Heritage Month, Native American Heritage Month, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Black History Month, Women's History Month, LGBTQ Awareness Month and Asian Island Pacific Heritage Month.

J. Miller also noted the Men of Delta initiative whose purpose is to provide motivation and a positive social network for male students who want to be academically successful and financially stable. The program uses professional and life experiences of Delta College faculty and staff to help coach the men who may need support towards their academic success.

J. Miller also shared with the Board two additional programs run through the Multicultural Office.

- **Mi-CUP – Michigan Community and University Partnership** which offers low-income, first generational and underrepresented minority community college students a summer research internship. The program teaches students how to navigate challenges and make the most of opportunities through networking and relevant research.
- **Student Transition Enrichment Program (STEP)** at Central Michigan University (CMU) is designed to support first-generation and/or Pell Grant eligible transfer students in their transition from a community or tribal college to CMU.

Both of these program are funded by grants supported by the State of Michigan and the King Chavez Parks (KCP) Initiative.

J. Miller then introduced Michelle White, Manager of Academic Career Experience & Service Learning. This area includes Co-op/Internships; Academic Service Learning; Global Education and International Travel; Student Food Pantry and the MNA Civic Engagement AmeriCorps*VISTA Program.

The VISTA Program is a national service program designed to alleviate poverty. An AmeriCorps*VISTA is a Volunteer in Service to America. These full-time volunteers are committed to a full year of service on our campus. Their focus is to engage in academic, enrollment and retention support activities. There have been 11 total members including the 3 currently serving, Zekiye Salman, Destyn Graves and Andy Straub.

M. White highlighted several of their projects:

- **Race to College**, an event that empowers at risk K-12 youth to start thinking about college early on. The use of bicycles and the theme of health and wellness is used as the main tool to engage the students. The day long activity includes stations that teach business, art, civic leadership, STEM, lifelong wellness, safety and more.
- **SACE Cares – a period project** will provide free and accessible menstrual products to Delta College students who cannot afford to purchase them. Information tables throughout the semester will help to bring awareness to and promote the program as well as let students and staff know how and where to donate products. The goal is to have products available across campus without obstacles.
- **The Childhood Philosophy Program** introduces elementary school students to major themes in philosophical thought through children’s literature and activities. It has been shown to improve academic performance in math, reading and writing as well as promote overall student engagement in the classroom. The program’s vision is to train Delta College students to develop and implement a curriculum to be taught and facilitated within 3rd to 5th grade classrooms to expand service learning and civic engagement opportunities.
- **Mackinaw High School Support Program** includes bi-weekly visits to the school in order to support their community of LGBTQ+ students and allies with coping and having a non-judgmental space for exploration and questioning of identity and community. The intent is to develop training and an infrastructure of support and understanding with a goal to give the support and tools to help bridge the gap between high school and higher education for all students.

- **Interfaith Holiday Display** took place during the week of December 12, 2016. Displays provided an explanation of basic beliefs for each tradition as well as symbols and rituals for each specific holiday celebrated throughout December and January. Displays included Christianity, Buddhism, Islam, Paganism, Judaism, Kwanzaa, Sikhism and Hinduism. The purpose of this event was to promote a sense of community and welcoming for all students as well as a starting point for those interested in engaging in interfaith dialogue.

M. White also shared with the Board the purpose and goals of the Volunteer Center. They coordinate volunteer, service learning and civic engagement opportunities for students, faculty, community organizations and the college campus. There are currently 25+ community partners. Any Delta College student in need of service hours can go to the Volunteer Center and be matched up with a pre-approved community partner relevant to their project and interest.

J. Miller indicating that he was standing in for Shelly Raube, Athletic Director, shared with the Board the mission statement of Athletics which, "... provides Delta's student athletes with excellent opportunities to participate in an intercollegiate athletics experience of the highest quality..." They have five key values which include, integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and leadership.

Delta College has a Student Athlete Advisory Club (SAAC). It is the first one established amongst Region XII NJCAA Member Schools. It was established to serve as a medium of communication through student athletes, Delta College representatives, NJCAA representatives and coaches to discuss and take action on issues relating to rules and regulations; student athlete welfare and community service.

Three years ago the Champions in Leadership Program was implemented with the belief that excellence is a result of a balanced life that encompasses academic excellence, athletic achievement and personal well-being. The program includes several learning objectives such as enhancing student athlete's knowledge of basic leadership principles and skills as well as recognizing the value of diversity in every situation. In the Fall of 2016, the athletes logged 623 hours of community service in various activities such as Special Olympics, CAN Council, and Underground Railroad.

J. Miller also shared some stats in regards to the Champions in Leadership Program. He showed an increase in the number of student athletes that were eligible and received both the NJCAA Academic Award as well as the MCCA (Michigan Community College Athletic Association) All Conference Award. He also showed an increase in retention with a rate of 87% during the 2015-2016 academic year.

J. Miller then introduced Dorian Phelps, Coordinator of the Possible Dream Program. D. Phelps shared with the Board the purpose of the program in promoting cultural awareness, academic achievement and higher education to academically promising students who are at risk due to socio-economic challenges. More than 2,000 students have participated in the program since it began in 1991. The goals include areas of retention – encouraging students to graduate from high school and attend college; as well as enrichment – participation in a variety of activities that broaden their horizons.

The student selection criteria for the Possible Dream program include:

- demonstrate potential through GPA and test scores,
- receive some form of financial assistance,
- have a supportive adult who will encourage participation, and
- have transportation to one of our Delta College campuses for activities.

Teacher and school leaders nominate students from grades 5th – 7th who attend school in Saginaw, Bay or Midland County during the nomination cycle (February – March). New this year, students will be able to self-nominate. Induction is held in June and the new members begin participating in June.

There are 422 students currently in the program, with 23% from Bay County, 22% from Midland County and 55% from Saginaw County. D. Phelps shared that participants in the Possible Dream program had higher rates of high school completion when compared to all Michigan students. She also noted that 70% of Possible Dream participants have gone on to attend college. Of those who continued to higher education 65% of them came to Delta College.

Participants share in activities that combine learning and fun; reinforce academics; have a focus in areas of STEM, Arts and Humanities; are locally based; and introduces them to college life. The Possible Dream Program has created partnerships and collaborations with many groups and organizations both inside the college and within the community. Activities have included Delta College Summer Camps, STEM Explorer Day, iLuminate at the Temple Theater, and Saginaw Spirit Suite night.

Finally, D. Phelps shared testimonials from former students in the program. She also shared with the Board that 25, two year scholarships will be award this year to Possible Dream Program members.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Talisa Brown, Assistant Board Secretary

Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary