

Press Present: J. Hall, WSGW

Chairperson Kim Houston-Philpot called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. President Jean Goodnow said she had requested a task force to make recommendations regarding diversity at Delta College, and then named Don Halog, Margarita Mosqueda and Barry Baker to define and manage the College’s strategic initiative on diversity, incorporating the recommendations of the task force.

Margarita Mosqueda and Barry Baker presented to the Board a video report on diversity at Delta, which Ms. Mosqueda noted is the second such video report. The video described a broad range of diversity activities at Delta, from student background to recruiting efforts to programs and courses to student activities.

Bill Ketchum narrated the video, calling on Wendy Kraynak to describe how employees are recruited and hired, Trevor Kubatze to outline student characteristics, Leslie Myles-Sanders to describe the college’s legal obligations and its continued commitment to diversity, Masood Mowlavi to describe how diversity is incorporated into courses and curricula, Charissa Urbano to describe her course in diversity, the Presidents of the Black Student Union and the Society of Hispanic Leaders to speak about their goals, Michael Cooper to discuss support systems for students with disabilities, Thelma Bushong to describe training and education on diversity, Sue Montesi to discuss the college’s outreach to persons over the age of 50, and Dr. Goodnow to explain the college’s strategic direction on diversity.

Dr. Emrich said the video was well done. Dee Dee Wacksman asked where it will be used, and Barry Baker said it will be streamed on the Web. Karen Lawrence-Webster said that she wants to feel comfortable and confident in responding to questions when she is approached by community members. Chairperson Kim Houston-Philpot also stated that the video was well done.

Chairperson Houston-Philpot introduced the topic of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) by describing a meeting with Trustee Higgs, Dr. Goodnow, Trevor Kubatzke, Margarita Mosqueda and Leslie Myles-Sanders in which questions raised by Mr. Higgs were discussed. She introduced Margarita Mosqueda, who provided Board members
a handout summarizing what FERPA is, what it requires and what the College has done to comply with the statute.

Mr. Higgs raised a question about providing transcripts to students who have filed for bankruptcy. Ms. Mosqueda said that all students have access to their transcripts on line. Deb Lutz said that transcripts are not withheld from students who have filed bankruptcy. Mr. Higgs noted that the University of Connecticut FERPA policy includes a reference to the right of a student to legal representation.

Ms. Wacksman asked where the students would find information about the college’s FERPA policies, and Ms. Mosqueda said that in addition to the printed information in the online and paper catalog and the Registrar’s web page, FERPA is discussed in student orientation as well. Mr. MacKenzie asked how often students raise concerns about FERPA, and Ms. Mosqueda responded that it is very rare.

Dr. Emrich asked whether the Boards of the Michigan community colleges listed in the chart in the handout were involved in deciding what directory information the colleges should list, and Ms. Mosqueda responded that she did not believe they were. There was discussion about the PowerPoint presentations which Mr. Higgs had found on the Michigan State University website, and whether Delta might use it as well. Staff will follow up with MSU. Dr. Goodnow noted differences between community colleges and universities.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Myles-Sanders, Board Secretary