M. Rowley turned the meeting over to J. Goodnow. J. Goodnow indicated that this evening’s presentation is in response to Trustee K. Houston-Philpot’s request to have strategic visioning discussions. It was also suggested that we start with Student Enrollment and Retention. This topic aligns with our Strategic Plan and one of our current action projects.

1.1 – Increase student enrollment and retention of current students.

Action Plan 1.1 – 1: Develop, implement, and assess strategies to positively impact enrollment (Champions: Reva Curry, Dave Peruski, Russ Curley)

Ginny Przygocki, Dean of Career Education and Learning Partnerships, talked about our efforts in offering new programs and continued efforts in dual enrollment. G. Przygocki talked about the Associate in Science Agriculture Degree which is a partnership between Delta College and Michigan State University. An Agricultural Maintenance Technology Certificate is in the works along with an Associate’s Degree in Heavy Duty Diesel Service Technology. A grant from the Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation secured $725,000 to help in purchasing the equipment for the Heavy Duty Diesel Service Technology program. The college is also working on a post associate program in Surgical First Assistant Certificate. Dual enrollment continues to grow even though it has slowed down slightly after a drastic increase a few years ago.
Reva Curry, Vice President of Instruction and Learning Services, spoke about the outreach that has been done by the President and the Vice Presidents. She noted a recent trip to the Meridian School District. They are a current dual enrollment partner with an increasing number of students taking classes at Delta. A team led by Dr. Goodnow went out to the Saginaw Public Schools District. They had a discussion on how to increase the percentage of their graduates attending Delta College. Shortly after, the high school principals and counselors were invited to Delta for an informational tour. There are continuous conversations between the high schools and Delta College. Finally the college has applied for a Pell Grant Pilot Study which would provide Pell grant funds to incarcerated students. The college has plans to offer onsite classes beginning in Winter of 2017 at the Saginaw Correctional Facility.

Dave Peruski, Dean of Teaching and Learning, talked about Guided Pathways. D. Peruski compared Guided Pathways to a vehicle’s GPS system as it gives you the quickest route to your destination. It provides students a pathway for completion of their program in a timely fashion. Guided Pathways have been created for all of Delta’s degrees and certificates which provide a clear direction for students. Pathways for areas of interest like history and chemistry transfer degrees are currently being developed. Guided Pathways also align with Delta’s student planning module, Achieving the Dream initiatives, developmental education, PASS Advising and helps to strengthen partnerships with universities.

Margaret Mosqueda, Vice President of Student and Educational Services, spoke about various retention activities. M. Mosqueda explained the Planning for Academic and Student Success Program (PASS Program). This includes mandatory orientation with an admissions advisor and advising with a counselor for new students. These efforts have shown improved GPAs and increased retention rates. Efforts are also being made by intervening with students who are on academic caution status to develop an academic improvement plan before being placed on academic probation. The college is also looking at retention software.

Russell Curley, Dean of Enrollment Management, talked about a proposed Strategic Enrollment Management retention funnel. The funnel includes milestones such as admission, first year, second year and graduation. Each milestone has key performance indicators, and specific tasks that will help to achieve the goals. Tasks include identifying risks, setting expectations and establishing connections; promoting engagement and intervention; and reinforcing success activities. The goals are to identify and prepare students for admission; track and intervene with students during their first year; re-enrolling during second year and beyond; and finally to graduate, transfer and employ students.

J. Goodnow then opened the meeting up to the Board members for questions and discussion. Board Chair, M. Rowley asked Board members and others present what worked well and what things would they like to see changed for the next strategic visioning discussion. Board members noted that it was helpful to have the presentation ahead of time and the ability to get through all of the information and still have time for questions.
There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

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Talisa Brown, Assistant Board Secretary

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Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary