

Delta College
Board of Trustees Dinner Meeting
Delta College N7
Tuesday, February 3, 2026
5:30 pm

Board Present: A. Baldwin, A. Clark, S. Gannon, B. Handley-Miller, D. Middleton, M. Nash, M. Rowley, A. Thomas, M. Wood

Board Absent: None

Others Present: T. Brown, W. Burns, W. Childs, P. Clark, R. Curry, C. DeEulis, J. Foco, J. Garn, L. Govitz, S. Hill, D. Hopkins, T. Johnroe, K. Kiste-Toner, P. Larkowski, J. Perry, S. Raube, S. Rivet, K. Schuler, A. Trabalka, M. Thomas, A. Ursuy, S. VanderLaan, M. Zimmerman

Press Present: None

Board Chair, S. Gannon called the meeting to order at 5:58 pm. She then introduced the Coordinators of the Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence (FCTE): Sascha Rivet, Professor of Math and Angela Trabalka, Associate Professor of English.

S. Rivet and A. Trabalka presented on the professional development opportunities offered through the FCTE, as well as their additional responsibilities as coordinators. New Faculty Orientation is a three-day event held on campus the week prior to Fall Learning Days. The program is designed to acclimate new full-time faculty to one another, the College's culture, the facilities, and essential processes.

Adjunct Academy is held on Wednesday evening during Fall Learning Days and is intended to orient brand-new adjunct faculty; however, both new and returning adjunct faculty are welcome to attend. This past year, the event included information tables along with presentations on as-needed procedures, policies, and requirements. Incentives for participation included stipends and giveaways.

The FCTE is responsible for planning the Monday afternoon programming during Fall Learning Days. In previous years, this consisted of concurrent sessions. The afternoon is teaching-focused and contractually required for full-time faculty. This year, a nationally recognized speaker, José Antonio Bowen, will be presenting on artificial intelligence (AI).

EDU 390 is a course for new faculty that meets monthly on the last Wednesday afternoon of the month. The course focuses on just-in-time topics and includes monthly projects aligned with teaching practice.

During the current academic year, the FCTE has offered in-house sessions on dual enrollment; Belonging, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (BEDI); artificial intelligence (AI); and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The FCTE also offers various book clubs. Strategic scheduling, ideal delivery modalities, targeted messaging, and flyers have contributed to a significant increase in participation. Workshops are offered on an as-needed basis. Planning is underway for the Endowed Teaching Chair application process and self-evaluations for the upcoming semester.

The FCTE publishes a weekly newsletter, *TGIF*, every Friday during the semester. The newsletter features teaching reflections from the coordinators and guest contributors, promotes both internal and external professional development opportunities, and may include surveys to collect faculty feedback. It also includes a community-building section.

Several EDU courses are offered through the FCTE and are facilitated by faculty for faculty, as well as some staff and K–12 teachers. These credit-bearing courses are offered during the Fall, Winter, and Spring semesters. Tuition waivers are available, and faculty grants are offered for adjunct faculty. Participation in these courses supports the promotion and tenure processes and may include pay increases. Course offerings are adjusted as needed based on demand and preferred modalities. The newest course offering is *BEDI in the Classroom*.

The Endowed Teaching Chair Awards support student success center innovations in areas including technology, teaching, collaboration, humanities, professional development, and special populations. These awards are primarily faculty-focused, though staff may occasionally participate. One-year awards provide \$5,000, and two-year awards provide \$10,000, which may be used for supplies and services. A reporting process is required. Recent award recipients and their projects were shared.

S. Rivet and A. Trabalka announced the return of the Great Teachers Conference after a ten-year hiatus. The conference will be held off-site from Wednesday afternoon through Friday afternoon during the week between the Winter and Spring semesters. This professional development retreat will focus on teaching and community building for Delta faculty. Professional development allowances and adjunct faculty grants may be used to cover participation costs.

Finally, the coordinators shared the members of the FCTE Advisory Board, which advises on the Endowed Teaching Chair Awards, Fall Learning Days planning, and professional development initiatives. Advisory board members communicate information back to their respective divisions.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 6: 36 pm.

Talisa Brown, Secretary Pro Tem to the Board