

**DELTA COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DINNER MEETING
March 13, 2007
Delta College Main Campus
Room N-7**

Board Present: K. Higgs, K. Houston-Philpot , T. Lane, K. Lawrence-Webster, J. MacKenzie, E. Selby, B. Stafford, D. Wacksman

Board Absent: R. Emrich

Others Present: J. Goodnow, D. Lutz, L. Myles-Sanders, B. Allen, C. Atwood, B. Baker, P. Clark, C. Curtis, A. Glaza, P. Graves, T. Grunow, D. Halog, K. MacArthur, J. Miller, S. Montesi, M. Mosqueda, L. Priebe, R. Pfeiffer, L. Ramseyer, J. Stahl, T. Stitt, L. VandenBosch, B. Webb, K. Wilson, M. Wood

Press Present: Patti Brandt, Bay City Times

Chairperson Earl Selby called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Don Halog gave the Board an overview of the College's accreditation through participation in the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP). He provided Board members a packet of information addressing two objectives: the meaning of AQIP membership, and the work which has been done to date.

AQIP focuses on accountability to the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, to the public, and to ourselves. It requires transparency, including posting information on our progress in achieving our chosen Action Plans on a public Web site. It is based on the concept of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI): setting and measuring progress on goals, focusing on systems and processes. In contrast to the prior accreditation process which required intensive work two years out of every ten, the AQIP process is continuous, reflective, and pro-active throughout the seven year accreditation cycle. Don compared the AQIP process to regular checkups that focus on keeping a person vibrant, healthy and energetic.

Don described the application process, the preparation of a Strategy for Action workbook, and the AQIP team's participation in a Strategy Forum in which HLC staff facilitated an intensive three-day series of 18 exercises. He described how the Action Plans initially chosen by the team came from the College's Strategic Plan, and how the Strategy Forum exercises helped the team focus and redefine Action plans that are measurable and can be completed in a realistic time frame. He also introduced the members of the AQIP team, which is now the AQIP Steering Committee in recognition of the fact that many more people will be involved in carrying out the Action Plans. The members are Jay Anderson, David Bailey, Don Halog, Deb Lutz, Sue Montesi, Ginny

Przygocki, Leslie Sanders, Andrea Ursuy, Leslie VandenBosch, Connie Watson, Jenny Williams, Michael Wood, and ex officio, Jean Goodnow and Karen Wilson. Dee Dee Wacksman is the Board team member.

Kim Houston-Philpot asked how success would be measured, and Don said the team was still working on the Key Performance Indicators. Jack MacKenzie expressed concern that the process might pull faculty members away from their primary job of teaching. Jean Goodnow said this is intended to help us retain students and keep them from falling through the cracks. Karen Lawrence-Webster said it is sometimes valuable for instructors to step back and evaluate, and to open up to different styles of teaching and learning.

Dee Dee Wacksman said that the college must be accredited, and this method is like getting ready to run a marathon, systematically and incrementally. She said the Delta team was very well prepared for participation in the Strategy Forum. Jack MacKenzie complimented the Delta team on its leadership, and Earl Selby said we would expect no less.

Pat Graves gave the Board a detailed and in depth view of the public sector grants which the College receives, exclusive of student financial aid. The \$4 to \$8 million that the college receives annually is focused primarily in 3 areas: workforce development, student success and community outreach. Delta's participation in these grants benefits the individuals who are trained and often motivated to move further in higher education; it benefits area employers by providing a skilled workforce; and it benefits the college by bringing new students. Pat also described a number of other initiatives including the work with all 37 area high schools in the Tech Prep program, and the articulation with high schools that enabled over 600 students to receive 3,840 articulated credit hours at Delta in 2005-06 alone. She provided the Board with a handout that also described various community service and other special focus grants. Delta's success rate in applying for these grants is high: 90% of applications are funded.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Myles-Sanders, Board Secretary