

**Delta College
Board of Trustees
Dinner Meeting
December 12, 2017
Delta College Main Campus Room N7**

Board Present: M. Benecke, R. Emrich, D. Middleton, M. Nash, M. Rowley

Board Absent: A. Buckley, K. Lawrence-Webster, M. Morrissey, E. Selby

Others Present: J. Bamberg, R. Battinkoff, V. Bledsoe, N. Bovid, L. Brown, T. Brown, P. Clark, R. Curley, R. Curry, S. DuFresne, J. Goodnow, L. Govitz, J. Kendziorski, D. Lutz, C. McMath, J. Miller, M. Mosqueda, T. Nadolski, L. Petee, G. Przygocki, L. Ramseyer, D. Traverse, A. Ursuy,

Press Present: K. Lazzaro (Delta Collegiate), J. Sierocki (Delta Collegiate)

Board Chair, R. Emrich called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. R. Emrich then turned the meeting over to Linda Petee, Sustainability & Risk Management Coordinator and Janis Kendziorski, Associate Professor of Accounting and Academic Sustainability Coordinator who presented on Sustainability at Delta College. L. Petee recognized Larry Ramseyer, Director of Facilities for all of his efforts and leadership in making Delta College a sustainable campus.

L. Petee noted that there are two ways in which we are tracking our progress: the President's Climate Commitment Progress Report and STARS: Sustainability Tracking and Rating System. J. Kendziorski noted that there are three components to sustainability: environment, society and economy.

J. Kendziorski gave a brief history on the integration of sustainability at the College beginning with membership in the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education in 2006. This was followed by Dr. Goodnow signing the American College & University President's Climate Commitment, the forming of the Sustainability Task Force and a College-wide Green Summit all taking place in 2007. In 2008 it was adopted as a facilities management strategic priority. Sustainability was recognized as an AQIP distinguished objective and recommended as a guiding principle by the Board of Trustees in 2009. And finally in 2010 it was adopted as an institutional strategic focus area.

L. Petee shared the numerous awards Delta College has received for its efforts in sustainability.

- 1995 - Michigan Recycling Coalition Recycler of the Year in Education
- 2007 - American Schools & Universities Green Cleaning Award (1st US community college)
- 2010 - Second Nature Climate Leadership Award (inaugural); Second Nature/Kresge Foundation Fellowship Recipient
- 2011 - Recognized for Outstanding Distinguished Objective by the Higher Learning Commission; Stormwater Management (1st major installment in MI)
- 2013 - LEED Gold Certified Health Professions Building (1 in 12 certifications in MI); Living Wall (1st MI educational institution installment); AACC/SEED Green Genome Award for Community Engagement (inaugural)
- 2014 - AACC/SEED Mentor Connect Recipient (inaugural)

J. Kendziorski shared with the Board that sustainability is a strategic focus area with three broad areas:

- Expand: develop and promote sustainable initiatives and learning within the college community and across all academic divisions
- Promote: identify opportunities to enhance the College's culture of environmental, social, and economic responsibility
- Codify: collect, analyze, and utilize feedback from sustainability course assessments and evaluate effectiveness of outreach opportunities

L. Petee showed the Board the sustainability webpage and noted that it is used as a recruitment tool. They also have a presence with current students and can be found on the faculty/staff portal, Facebook, Twitter and SnapChat. Sustainability has also been incorporated into the College's new employee orientation, faculty orientation course (EDU 390), and new for Winter 2018 the student orientation.

J. Kendziorski noted that Delta College courses that have sustainability incorporated into them have an S designation. She shared the increase in the number of course sections by semester from 2011/2012 – 83 to 2016/2017 - 133. There are 48 separate courses in which some or all sections are S-related. Faculty involvement has also increased from 15 in 2014/2015 to 31 in 2016/2017. An academic sustainability team was created with seven members representing four divisions. They meet monthly and work collaboratively with the Democracy Commitment Team, Global Peace Studies, Think Civically Resource Group, Earth Day Team, and the Energy Conservation Council.

J. Kendziorski shared survey results that indicated students have favorable opinions to S-courses and the importance of sustainability in the curriculum. She also shared the vast list of courses that have sustainability incorporated into them.

Sustainability has also been incorporated into four study abroad trips. The destinations have included Bundoran, Ireland; Monteverde, Cost Rica; Brittany, France; and Drakes Bay, Costa Rica. There is also one credit earning travel specific course: Academic Sustainability Travel and another proposed; Business & Cultural Travel. There have been approximately 50 student travelers each year; each receiving a sustainability transcript designation and also having the opportunity to complete the honors option. Six faculty members traveled in an exploratory role and have completed the global education course.

L. Petee indicated that LifeLong Learning has added several courses in the area of sustainability. The Urban Farming course was introduced in 2015 and was funded by AACC/Seed Green Genome Award for Community Engagement. The College works with four local farm operations offering 6 to 13 classes each semester including field trips. There is also an internship opportunity. Other courses include Backyard Beekeeping, Solar Power for Cottages & Barns, Green Building, and Green Supply Chain.

In regards to student leadership, L. Petee noted that there are several outreach events including 20 during the Fall 2017 semester. There are student organized promotions and they collaborate with various student clubs and organizations on campus as well as assisting with campus event planning. She also spoke about our Green Grads, noting that our commencement gowns are made from recycled pop bottles. Since 2011 nearly 800 graduates have taken the pledge to carry over sustainability in their career and lifestyle.

L. Petee discussed recent community projects including the Sailing School; Off the Page event; food waste and composting; and a new merit badge for the Boy Scouts in Sustainability with an event being hosted at Delta College. New for 2018 will be a seed library. Several outside projects were also shared

with the Board including monarch mound, stormwater management, adaptive landscaping, farmland tiling and bee-pollinator campus. Other activities taking place are waste diversion and various signage on campus to be used as a learning lab.

L. Petee shared the work of the Energy Conservation Council which recently created energy guidelines. She noted that we are always looking for ways to reduce our energy consumption. The most recent campaign was the 'Power of A Single Action' which asks faculty and staff to choose just one item: turn off unnecessary lighting, unplug as much as possible, power off projectors, enable power-saver modes, override the occupancy sensor in order to conserve energy.

Information was shared with the Board in regards to the electric usage of the main campus and other college owned buildings since 2008/2009. There has been a 20% decrease. Gas usage has declined by 11% over the same time period as well as a decrease in water usage. L. Petee noted that our adaptive landscaping saves us around 75,000 gallons of water a week which is equivalent to filling up our courtyard pond five times.

Delta College participates in the Consumers Energy Incentive Program. L. Petee shared some of the major projects from 2010-2017 and the incentives received as well as the annual savings both in money and kilowatts. All of this helps to lower our campus carbon footprint.

The College has participated in the STARS: Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System review in 2008, 2011 and 2017. There are 18 rating categories with 65 criteria credits. This project is a huge undertaking requiring information from across the campus. The College received a silver rating and is working towards a gold one.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Talisa Brown, Assistant Board Secretary

Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary