



DATE: Monday, April 30, 2018
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: Scott R. Mickelsen, President
RE: **Campus Report — May 2018 Board of Regents Meeting**

MISSION

Dawson Community College provides affordable and open access to quality teaching and learning

CORE THEMES

- College Transfer Education: Provide programs and services that prepare learners for transition to and success in further degree programs
- Career & Technical Education: Provide programs and services that prepare learners for vocational and technical career entry, transition, and advancement
- College Readiness Education: Provide pre-college programs and services that prepare learners for successful transition to college
- Continuing Education & Community Service: Provide programs and services that help address the professional, social, and personal enrichment needs of the region

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Low student to faculty ratio
- Career readiness educational programming
- Dedicated and friendly faculty and staff
- Seamless transferability, of courses, for all core classes
- Quality Career and Technical programs
- Up to date library facilities that are student focused
- Campus-wide WIFI along with independent computer labs plus library computers
- Competitive athletic programs
- Active student government and student life programming
- Quality apartment-style housing

REPORT:

Dr. Bryce Humpherys and Mr. Miles Jackson visited DCC March 28-29 for the NWCCU Mid-Cycle Evaluation. I appreciated their expertise and professionalism and look forward to receiving their report. A final report will be sent to NWCCU for review at its board meeting in June. Some highlights for me were:

- They liked the assessment model, but we have some work to do with mapping, from course SLO's to Institutional Outcomes. We are already developing solutions!
- They continued to stress Assessment and Program Review and wanted to know further how the information gathered helped make good decisions to improve learning and overall college planning and budgeting – learning drives budget.
- They appreciated the Strategic/Action Plan. We need to be clear in our communication regarding the Strategic/Action Plan, Objectives, Tasks, and Key Indicators so that it aligns with NWCCU standards.
- In a side conversation, they were impressed with our TAC partnership and asked to see copies of the MOU and Operating Procedures.



- Lastly, they were impressed with our growth and asked me what factors contributed to the growth. My response centered on athletics, a focus on Montana students, increased high school visits, and an increased budget for recruitment and advertising.

Dr. Humpherys, in a follow-up email referencing DCC, stated, “You have a great college there – the little college that could.” This statement is so simple, yet has a powerful meaning...even though we have a lot to do, he understands that we can and we will!

Our application count is running nearly 30 percent ahead of last year at this time for degree-seeking, on-campus students which could correlate to an increase of 35-40 students on campus this coming fall semester compared to last fall. We are seeing the results of intensified efforts in recruiting and marketing across the state and throughout the region while ensuring our programs continue to meet the needs of all students whether for transfer to a four-year institution or direct entry into the workforce.

Nine prospective students recently attended an open house for non-traditional students. All are excited for the opportunity to continue their education and plan to attend DCC this fall.

Dawson Community College has been awarded a \$200,000 PowerGrant to help with re-education efforts of those individuals affected by the Montana coal reductions. We look forward to providing learning opportunities for those who seek the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to compete in today’s labor market. Let’s keep Montana citizens in Montana!

We were pleased to host members of the Board of Regents, Commissioner Christian and OCHE officials on April 11. We appreciated the opportunity to show off our campus and community. Thank you!

Commencement exercises for the Class of 2018 will be held on May 10. The keynote speaker this year is Mr. Bob Carr of Billings.