



DATE: April 20, 2020
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: Scott R. Mickelsen, President
RE: **Campus Report – May 2020 Board of Regents Meeting**

MISSION

Dawson Community College fosters a culture of excellence in education providing all students quality learning and opportunities for growth and partnership in local and global communities.

CORE THEMES

- *Excellence through Academics:* Provide curriculum and instruction through multiple learning pathways expanding opportunities in education adaptive to the needs of a changing student body.
- *Excellence through Student Engagement:* Provide a student-centered focus through student and academic support services, quality faculty and staff, residence life, clubs and organizations.
- *Excellence through Community:* Provide the greater community lifelong learning opportunities through open access to the College.
- *Excellence through Outreach:* Provide opportunities for workforce development, apprenticeships and internships, continuing education, personal enrichment and youth programming.
- *Excellence through Recruiting:* Provide opportunities to invite all learners to be a part of DCC, maintain sustained growth with not only more applicants, but also better-prepared students equipped with tools for success.
- *Excellence through Financial Practices:* Provide budget oversight and expanded opportunities in education for both transfer and career and technical education and workforce development, as well as personal enrichment for faculty, staff, students, and community.
- *Excellence through Property and Learning Facilities:* Provide for the management of all grounds and facilities to help provide the best learning environment possible.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Low student to faculty ratio
- Quality career and technical programs
- Highly qualified, dedicated faculty and staff
- Campus-wide WIFI and independent computer labs
- Active student government and student life programming
- Quality learning environment in a unique geographical region of the United States
- Seamless transferability for all core classes
- Career readiness educational programming
- Student-focused modern library facilities
- Competitive athletic programs
- Quality apartment-style housing

REPORT:

In mid-March, leadership at Dawson Community College created a Covid-19 Response Team which meets daily to monitor the coronavirus pandemic and ensure that the College adheres to the directives and guidelines issued by



Governor Bullock, OCHE, and state and federal public health agencies. Practices such as sheltering-in-place are not easy adjustments for most of us, but the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff remains our top priority.

All on-campus instruction moved to an online learning platform effective March 23. Our faculty have worked diligently to provide students the same level of high-quality instruction in a remote environment. DCC's online learning support team and tutoring services provide further assistance to students. The length of the semester has not changed, although two on-campus CTE labs were accelerated and concluded April 10. Due to small class sizes, students in those labs were able to appropriately distance themselves from one another and meet the learning objectives.

A number of students have remained on campus throughout the crisis and we continue to provide important services such as grab-n-go food service. Other students chose to leave campus after spring break. As those apartments become vacant, custodial crews are conducting a thorough deep cleaning of each unit. On April 9, the Board of Trustees voted to issue housing and meal plan refunds on a pro-rated basis to students who've left campus because of Covid-19.

With deep regret, the Board of Trustees also voted to cancel spring commencement ceremonies. A survey of students showed little interest in a virtual ceremony; instead, 2020 graduates will be included in 2021 commencement activities.

The summer term begins June 1, and will be held entirely online. Staff is busy enrolling students. At this time, we anticipate on-campus instruction will return in the fall. We continue to recruit and process applications and enrollments for the fall semester.

Most DCC staff have transitioned to work remotely. We continue to track a number of data points and variables to determine the financial impact to DCC due to the coronavirus.

I am so proud of the DCC faculty and staff who, throughout this crisis, continue to display a high degree of professionalism and caring regard. Their support and willingness to go the extra mile to serve our students in these challenging times is greatly appreciated. Go Bucs!