



DATE: Friday, August 25, 2017  
TO: Board of Regents  
FROM: Scott R. Mickelsen, President  
RE: **Campus Report for September, 2017 Board of Regents' Meeting**

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### **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:**

The First year experience class will be taught, for the first time, this fall. I want to thank Christina and Laura for taking that project on a helping it become a reality.

We have a new orientation schedule this year. New and exciting things to help students feel welcomed to Dawson. A big thanks to Suela and Stephanie for taking this on and being proactive with our students in mind - well done!!

Our first co-rep model will begin this fall. Our writing will no longer have a WRIT 095 course as



a developmental course. The course will be coded as a WRIT101X. The 095 information will be streamlined into the course. A new model that has shown great success across the US in college completions. In the spring Semester we will have our Math course align in the co-req model also. I want to thank Mike, Christina and Traci for their work and leadership in this area.

Just another indicator that things are going good - We currently have 387 FAFSA and I have 76 students awarded. This will quickly increase over the next several weeks. We are on a path to intake more than 500 FASFA forms for DCC. We have not had this high of a number for 5 years. Thanks Danielle for bringing this information to me.

Dawson Community College was awarded the Pathways grant. A big thank to Suela for writing and submitting this grant. The grant will help in the following areas.

- The purchase of two drones.

- Four people to attend the Montana Association for Career and Technical Education.

- Two people to attend the Nation ACTE (Association for Career and Technical Education).

- One person to attend the National Dual Enrollment Conference.

- Advance Dual Enrollment with all 11 high schools in our educational district.

- Advertise in all 11 high school newspapers regarding Dawson Community College.

- Advertise on local radio spots.

We had a great summer art program. Over 15 art camps at Dawson this summer. We had a great art exhibit produced by the children at our summer art camps. It was a great exhibit that showcased the talents and creativity of our children. Thank you Jennifer and Traci for making this happen. I look forward to your ideas next summer – awesome job!!

A new and exciting sport at Dawson. We have 12 volleyball student/athletes starting this fall. Ten are from Montana. Great job Dina!!!

Montana University System Tour – ideas that were discussed.

- MUS-Billings – Partnerships in education with a Professor of Practice component between MUS-Billings and Dawson Community College. Looking at a 2+3 program in Athletic training. Looking a co-enrollment model between the two colleges.

- Montana State University – Articulations in Computer Science, Agriculture and help and support for contacts in Bozeman to help build programs in Eastern Montana.

- Montana Western – Stronger articulation in Education. Develop articulation in Natural Horsemanship.

- Montana Tech – DCC establish a 2 year degree in Civil Engineering (big need and very employable with a 2 year degree) with a pathway to Tech in Mechanical, Civil or Petroleum Engineering. We talked about a Montana Tech presence on campus at DCC. They are interested in pursuing the Professor of Practice model.

- Bitterroot College – Needs support in programming to help them grow and build. We



talked about the corrosion program – they are interested in further discussions. They has a 3-D printer lab. We might be able to tie our new Computer Science program into this lab.

Missoula College – Partnership in Pharmacy Tech program, Corrosion and Hospitality. Shannon liked our potential model in Makoshika (Ag, Tourism and Business) and would like to see how their tourism program might compliment that idea.

University of Montana – Sheila and I talked about scholarships or waivers for the Education co-hort project. The biggest barrier to deliver that at Dawson Community College is the cost. We discussed stronger articulations across University of Montana. They are going to begin a new summer program idea. It is offering free housing in the summer. We discussed that our students who want to transfer to U of M may come in the summer to get the Grizz experience that the transition is more seamless for them.

Great Falls College – Had great discussions related to Corrosion, Medical coding, their online accounting degree and their partial online Medical Assistant program. Some great possibilities for DCC and Eastern Montana.

Northern – They have a Bachelor’s of applied Technology – we need to align strong with this with our career and technical programs. They are interested in looking at our Corrosion program. They would like us to partner with them on their light duty Diesel program. They have 180 students currently in the program and could grow to 500 today with the demand. The model would be that classes are taught at DCC with weekend labs, once per month, in Havre. Other possibilities are Snap-on program, Apprenticeships, Criminal Justice, Business, Leadership, Biology, Education and Nutrition.

The American Campus (TAC) project in Mauritius is still progressing. We will not start this fall with a co-hort but are planning on a January start. TAC has a verbal okay from the Tertiary Education Commission in Mauritius but no official approval at this time. The Commission will meet again the end of August.

In-service was held this week. John Hawkins, a motivational speaker delivered part of our training this year. It was outstanding focusing on growing and developing leadership at Dawson. The overall theme was strive for excellence.

Students had started to check into the dorms. We are ready and excited for this school year. The dorm, as of today, have 3 empty beds. It is pretty amazing to begin with almost a 100% capacity in the dorms.

We are in the process of working on a gift to Dawson Community College. The gift may consist of an apartment complex that would become part of our DCC living. It would give us the flexibility to house traditional as well as non-traditional students and family living. Stay tuned for more updates.

We have started looking into an ESL program at Dawson Community College. In the initial investigation we would be the only program in the State of Montana. We are continuing to work



on and see how we might develop this at DCC. I want to thank our new Education Professor, Dr. Suneetha De Silva, for taking a lead on this for us.

I had a face to face meeting this week with Scott Schwab from Bottega. We discussed getting the Bottega DCC boot camp started. We are looking at September 25 as a launch date. I will be working with their marketing partner to put together a marketing plan that reaches most of the Western US to invite future Computer Programmers to begin at Dawson. Stay tuned as this exciting partnership continues to develop.