



DATE: February 11, 2019
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: Scott R. Mickelsen, President
RE: **Campus Report – March 2019 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:

I am pleased to report that spring semester headcount increased 14 percent; resident FTE increased six percent and overall FTE increased three percent compared to spring 2018. I anticipate annualized resident FTE will be slightly above 200. This is the fifth consecutive semester of growth at DCC!

Leslie Weldon, Vice President of Advancement and Human Resources, will present the Dawson Promise Initiative at the 2019 Montana College Access Network Conference on March 11. This initiative provides a pathway to post-secondary education for Montana students who are homeless or aging out of foster care. DCC is working closely with school counselors, child advocacy groups, and other stakeholders to identify prospective students who may benefit from and be eligible for Dawson Promise.

On February 25 and 26, DCC's Collegiate FFA club will host a FFA training day in agronomy, equine, and livestock evaluation. Students from area high schools will participate in this training. Scholarships and other prizes will be awarded to the top four contestants in each category. This event is supported by eastern Montana ag leaders who have provided livestock and seed.

The Second Annual High School Welding Competition will be held on campus March 4 and 5. Limited to 75 participants, students will be judged by local experts through written exams and demonstrated welding skills. Scholarships and other prizes will be awarded to the top five individual contestants and the top three teams. Students will also participate in various tours and activities centered on career and technical education, and visit with industry leaders from sponsors such as Crisafulli Pump SRS Inc., TransCanada Keystone, TransCo Railway Products Inc., and WBI Energy.

Workforce training opportunities for dislocated workers continues to expand. Affected workers in Colstrip have enrolled in EMT training and in the Dawson Software School. Non-credit courses geared toward the hospitality industry begin in March and are designed to increase productivity while reducing turnover. Through a continuing education partnership, we now offer advanced career training opportunities for participants to earn CEUs, certifications, or vouchers. Finally, we are exploring training for the region's manufacturing industry to include on-site and online offerings.

In January, I was appointed by Governor Bullock to the Get Outdoors Montana Advisory Council. I am honored to represent eastern Montana and its many outdoor recreation opportunities, and I look forward to serving with the other members of this council.

The Dawson College Foundation will host its annual Buccaneer Bash on Saturday, March 30 at the Toepke Center. This festive evening includes live and silent auctions.