

**Subject: From the President's Desk****Date:** Fri, 7 Oct 2005 16:36:50 -0700**From:** "Raul Rodriguez" <rrodriguez@deltacollege.edu>**To:** "Campus Wide Business" <campusbusiness@sjdccd.cc.ca.us>

Good (late Friday) afternoon Delta! This has been a particularly eventful week in so many ways that it will be difficult to convey them all (especially since I am somewhat pressed for time).<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />

**Department of Ed. Does Delta**

We were informed on Monday that we received two federal grants from the Department of Education in Washington, D.C. The first is the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) grant. This is a four-year grant worth approximately \$123,000 dollars per year to support our child care services. Congratulations to Angela Williams and to Deb Lewis and to everyone else associated with this grant.

The second grant is the big one. We were also notified that our Title V grant was approved. This is a grant that is only allocated to Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI's). To be an HSI, a college must have at least 25% of its students designated as being of Hispanic descent. The grant is for five years and provides us with approximately \$550,000 dollars per year. This grant will allow us to implement a range of activities to help our students, irrespective of whether or not they are of Hispanic descent. Congratulations to Mary Ann Cox, Kathy Hart, Della Condon, Joe Gonzales, Paula Bennett, James Forte, and whoever else was on the team that put together our successful Title V proposal!

We are establishing an impressive track record in grants development as we also recently received the Student Support Services (TRIO) grant, the Student Success Nursing grant, and several other grants. We also have a number of other grant applications in the pipeline or already under consideration. I believe that these grants, both individually and collectively, will make a major positive impact on our campus.

**College Marquees**

I recently saw the specifications for the new electronic marquees that will replace our existing marquees on Pacific Avenue and Pershing Avenue, respectively. Although I am not a huge fan of these new types of marquees, they do have some incredible capabilities. Considering the capabilities of our current marquees, putting in these new marquees is akin to the change that occurs in Star Wars or Star Trek flicks when they shift their spaceships into hyperdrive. We will have full color capability and be able to put both words and computer graphics on the screens (I don't think they have sound, but there is probably some way to do that if we had such a need). Just the size alone is awesome. The screens will be 7'2" in length by 14'4" in width on both sides so we will actually have 4 huge LED panels in total.

Unfortunately, the marquees will not be ready to be installed until sometime during the holiday break between semesters. Our goal is to have them in operation by the start of the next semester. It is going to be tight to meet

that goal and the installaion process may well carry over into the first week or two of the semester. Whenever we finally get them installed, it will be well worth the wait!

## **South County**

Although there is still nothing firm to report in regard to our South County negotiations on a site for our education center, we are making considerable progress. In fact, I expect that the Board will take action at our October 18 meeting and endorse a deal. It will be a great relief to get this whole issue behind us and to be able to concentrate on the construction of our new center. I know from experience that nothing is ever easy when you are dealing with land acquisition, infrastructure costs, and other such matters, but it sure doesn't have to be as difficult as what we have been going through either. I have been through many types of negotiations over the years. However, this one has been a particularly intricate, deceptive, and challenging negotiations process. I will be vastly relieved when it is over!

## **Kudos**

I received an e-mail message from Dr. Gary R. Martin, Professor and Assistant Dean of the University of the Pacific School of Engineering. He sent us the latest list of Delta students who had transferred into Pacific's School of Engineering and Computer Science. He said that Delta sends more students to their program than any other community college. He also indicated that Delta transfers do very well in their studies at Pacific. Here is the list of Delta transfers to the University of the Pacific School of Engineering and Computer Science:

- \* Martin Le
- \* Jamal Karim
- \* Ra Meas
- \* Eden Crane
- \* Saad Sultan
- \* Justin Murphy

Congratulations to everyone who helped these students to get to the level of success that allowed them to transfer into Pacific. I have every expectation that they will soon be successful graduates of Pacific.

As this may be our last warm weekend for a while, enjoy it!

