

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Leadership Council

Minutes

Meeting date: August 7, 2026

Members in attendance: Dr. Eddie Lovin, Dr. Vicki Bingham, Dr. Edwin Craft, Ms. Evelyn Greer, Dr. Leslie Griffin, Ms. Tijuana Harris, Dr. Suzette Matthews, Ms. Collins Phelps, Dr. Merideth Van Namen, Ms. Freddie Watt, and Ms. Kelli Williams (recorder – Ms. Claire Cole)

Members not in attendance: None

Guests: Ms. Katie Lusk

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the University Leadership Council was held in Room 302A in the H. L. Nowell Union on August 7, 2026. The meeting convened at 11:00 a.m. with Dr. Lovin presiding.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Dr. Griffin and seconded by Dr. Bingham, all University Leadership Council members present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the University Leadership Council Meeting held on July 22, 2026.

BUINESS

Action

Animals on Campus policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Animals on Campus policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University is committed to maintaining a safe, sanitary, accessible, and orderly campus while providing individuals with disabilities equal access to University programs, services, activities, employment, and housing. The University permits service animals, service animals in training, emotional support animals, therapy animals, and pets only as authorized by applicable law and this policy.

The policy shall be interpreted consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Fair Housing Act, and the Mississippi Support Animal Act, as applicable.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Collegiate Recreation & Wellness Facility Usage & Safety policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Collegiate Recreation & Wellness Facility Usage & Safety policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University is committed to maintaining safe, clean, accessible, and welcoming Collegiate Recreation & Wellness facilities for students, employees, authorized community users, guests, and program participants. All patrons must comply with University policies, posted facility rules, and directives issued by authorized personnel.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Administrative Review policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Administrative Review policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University may conduct an administrative review to determine whether a student should be removed temporarily or permanently from University-owned or managed housing when necessary to protect the health, safety, or well-being of the residential community. This administrative review process addresses a student's continued eligibility to reside in University housing and is separate from, and in addition to, any Student Code of Conduct proceeding or other University process.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Alterations to Residential Facilities policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Alterations to Residential Facilities policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University prohibits residents from making unauthorized physical, structural, mechanical, electrical, or cosmetic alterations to University-owned or managed residential facilities. Residents responsible for unauthorized alterations may be charged for all costs required to restore the space and may be subject to disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct policy.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Animals policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Animals policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University regulates animals within University-owned or managed housing to protect the health, safety, accessibility, and quiet enjoyment of the residential community while complying with applicable disability laws. Except as provided in this policy and the University's Animals on Campus policy, only water-breathing fish maintained in aquariums of ten (10) gallons or less are permitted in University-owned or managed housing.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Appeals policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Appeals policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University requires students subject to the University's residency requirement to reside in University-owned or managed housing. Students who enter into a housing contract are required to comply with the terms of that contract for the full academic year. Contract releases and residency exceptions are granted only for approved reasons or extraordinary circumstances through the established appeal process.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Authorized Access and Restricted Areas policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Authorized Access and Restricted Areas policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University requires residents and guests to enter, exit,

and access University-owned or managed residential facilities only through authorized entrances and with appropriate access credentials or permission. Entering restricted areas, bypassing access controls, or using emergency exits, windows, or balconies for nonemergency access is prohibited.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Break Periods policy (first reading).....Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Break Periods policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University establishes operating schedules for University-owned or managed housing during academic breaks and requires residents to comply with all published closing, reopening, and break-housing procedures. Students who remain in closed facilities or fail to vacate by the published deadline may be subject to disciplinary action.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Damage Charge Appeal policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Damage Charge Appeal policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University provides students with an opportunity to request review of individual housing damage charges and certain additional housing-related fees that the student believes were assessed in error. This policy establishes the procedures for requesting review of those charges. The decision of the Program Manager for Housing Administration constitutes the University's final administrative determination regarding the damage charge appeal.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Disability-Related Housing Accommodations policy (first reading).....Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Disability-Related Housing Accommodations policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University provides reasonable housing accommodations to qualified students with disabilities to ensure equal access to University-owned or managed residential facilities. Housing accommodations are determined individually through Accessibility Services in coordination with Student Housing and are subject to necessity, reasonableness, feasibility, availability and applicable law. The University will engage in an interactive process with the student, as appropriately, to determine an effective reasonable housing accommodation.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Hall Sports and Disruptive Behavior policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Hall Sports and Disruptive Behavior policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University prohibits hall sports and other disruptive behavior that interferes with the normal operation of University-owned or managed residential facilities or infringes upon the safety, rights, or well-being of students, guests, or University employees. Violations may result in one or more sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct and assessment of damage charges, repair costs, replacement costs, cleaning charges, or other charges authorized by the Student Housing Contract or applicable University policy.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Implied Consent and Passive Participation policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Implied Consent and Passive Participation policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University requires students in University-owned or managed residential facilities to take reasonable action when they become aware of conduct that violates University policy. Students may be held responsible for facilitating, encouraging, concealing, or remaining present during a violation when they fail to leave, intervene safely, or report the conduct to an appropriate University official.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Lockouts and Temporary Access Cards policy (first reading)Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Lockouts and Temporary Access Cards policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University requires residents to maintain possession of the access credentials needed to enter their assigned residential space. Residents who require assistance because of a lockout or who are issued a temporary access card may be assessed applicable fees and charges in accordance with University policy and the published Tuition and Fees schedule.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Personal Property and Responsibility and Liability policy (first reading).....Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Personal Property and Responsibility and Liability policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University is not responsible or liable for the loss of or damage to personal property in University-owned or managed residential facilities. Residents are responsible for safeguarding their belongings and are strongly encouraged to maintain renter's insurance or other applicable insurance coverage.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Powered Micromobility Devices policy (first reading).....Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Powered Micromobility Devices policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University is committed to maintaining residential environments that protect the health and safety of students, employees, guests, and visitors. Powered micromobility devices and their batteries are prohibited inside all University-owned or managed residential facilities; however, this prohibition does not apply to powered mobility devices used by individuals with disabilities as required by applicable federal and state law. This policy applies only to University-owned or managed residential facilities. Other University buildings may be subject to separate University policies governing powered micromobility devices.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Property Damage, Vandalism, and Discriminatory Actions policy (first reading). Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Property Damage, Vandalism, and Discriminatory Actions policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University requires residents and their guests to respect Student Housing property and the property of others within University-owned or managed residential facilities. Property damage, vandalism, graffiti, and discriminatory conduct within Student Housing communities are prohibited and may result in financial responsibility and disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct policy.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Residential Safety and Hazardous Conduct policy (first reading) Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Residential Safety and Hazardous Conduct policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University requires residents to conduct themselves in a manner that does not endanger themselves, others, or the safety and security of University-owned or managed housing. Behavior that creates or unreasonably contributes to a risk of harm may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to removal from student housing.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Vacant Bedspaces and Roommate Assignments policy (first reading) Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Vacant Bedspaces and Roommate Assignments policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University requires residents of multi-occupant rooms and apartments to keep vacant bed spaces and shared areas clean, orderly, and available for immediate assignment. Residents may not occupy, obstruct, or discourage assignment of a vacant bed space unless the room has been officially privatized or an approved housing accommodation provides otherwise.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy (first reading) Dr. Lovin

Dr. Lovin brought the Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy to University Leadership Council for a first reading. Delta State University is committed to maintaining walkways, hallways, breezeways, and other means of egress within University-owned or managed residential facilities that are safe, accessible, and free from obstruction. Residents may not store personal property, place trash, or interfere with security and fire-safety doors in these areas.

**All policies to be voted upon in bulk. The action taken can be read under Student Housing – Walkways, Breezeways, and Divider Doors policy.*

Motion: Moved by Dr. Lovin to consider and approve all policies presented in bulk and seconded by Dr. Griffin. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Lovin to approve all policies and seconded by Dr. Craft. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

None

NEXT MEETING:

- Next University Leadership Council Meeting – Monday, September 14, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.
- Next University Leadership Council Meeting Topic – TBD

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.