

From the President's Desk

Billy L. Clark, President

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Overheard at Graduation

During our last non-PN graduation, I took a chance to visit with two of our graphic design graduates. These two graduates really seemed to be enjoying themselves and I couldn't resist.

I asked them questions that I ask many of our students and graduates, "Was it worth it?" "If you had it to do over again, would you?" Their answers were quite impressive. Both of them said it was a very positive experience – yes it was worth it and yes they would do it again.

One of the graduates said Delta really changed his life and that Delta was one of the best things that ever happened to him. He said the instructors really worked with him to help him achieve his potential and he is already employed in his chosen career field – and loves it!

The other was also complimentary saying he has been able to use his skills to do work in Florida, Georgia and other areas of the country that I can't remember. This one has the potential to do great things – I'm going to be watching him.

Again these students give me more joy and satisfaction than anything else at Delta. It is gratifying to know that we really do make a difference in the lives of our students.

ACCSCT Site Visit

Delta, BR had its five year renewal of accreditation visit this past week. There were a total of nine reviewers on campus looking at every aspect of our college and our service to our students and community.

I am pleased to announce that we did very well – as a matter of fact, there were no findings or concerns regarding our educational products (syllabi, course outlines, lesson plans, instructor qualifications & professional growth, etc.).

Our catalog even passed without a single problem (which is nearly impossible).

Congratulations to all of our employees for giving their all. Instructors – all of your hard work in organizing "the binders" really paid off – not only for the accrediting team, but for our students and future instructors who will follow your lead.

A special thanks goes out to Amy Bertrand, Mickie Roy, and Kim Jenks who really went the "extra mile" to ensure we were fully prepared for this visit.

FY Cohort Default Rates Are Out

These rates are published annually by the US Department of Education for every public, private and non-profit school in the country that

participates in the Federal Pell Grant and Student Loan programs.

These rates give a percentage of students that do not pay their student loans back against all students supposed to be paying back their student loans, within a two-year time parameter.

We have had some outstanding rates in the past, but this year is quite extraordinary. Take a look at these rates:

Delta, BR and Lafayette	0.7% (1 of 141)
Delta, Covington & Slidell	0.0% (0 of 77)
Medical Training College, BR	0.0% (0 of 108)
Pensacola	No Rates Yet

Congratulations to all of the employees at these schools. It is because of your dedication to our students that they are able to do this well.

Why Do Bad Things Happen?

Let's see if we can figure this out by asking another question – Where does evil come from? That's right, from Satan. The devil is the author of all evil while God is the author of all good. The devil hates you and wants to destroy you while God loves you and wants to do what's best for you.

James 1:17 states, "*Do not be deceived my beloved brethren, every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights.*"

In John 10:10, Jesus says He wants us to have an abundant life and II Chronicles 16:9 states, "*The eyes of the Lord roam to and from throughout the whole earth looking to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is completely His.*"

More indirectly, bad things happen because we live in a world tainted by sin. Every bad thing that happens is a result of sin and many times someone else's sin can have detrimental results in the lives of others. However, be aware that according to Romans 3:23, we have all sinned and fall short of the perfection required by a perfect God. Even so, God still loves us and made a way for us to have His best through Jesus (John 3:16).

Now, not all things that seem bad to us are really bad – as Joseph stated in Genesis 50:20, "*And as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.*"

Romans 8:28, "*And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*"

No, I don't fully understand all of this, but I do trust God's sovereignty and I know that He knows what is best for me (and you) and will do whatever it takes to cause us to know Him and His best.