Student Affairs Council Minutes  
September 9, 2010  
Conference Call

Members Present  
Donna Fishbeck, BSC  
Paula Berg, DCB  
Hal Haynes, DSU  
Randy Fixen, LRSC  
Ray Gerszewski, MaSU  
Dick Jenkins, MiSU  
Georgea Pullen, NDSCS  
Prakash Mathew, NDSU  
Robert Boyd, UND  
Glen Schmaltz, VCSU  
Michel Hillman, NDUS  
Jacob Holm, NDSA

Others Present  
Rebecca Duben-Kalash, NDUS  
Randall Thursby, NDUS  
Jane Vangsness Frisch, NDUS  
Lori Betting, UND  
Michelle Eslinger, UND  
Alice Hoffert, UND

Hillman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

There were no corrections to the draft minutes from the August 12, 2010 SAC meetings. The minutes were, by consensus, approved as presented.

Updates  
Legislative – Hillman said that the first official meeting of the Roundtable since 2008 is next week. He said that all presidents are invited to sit in on the meeting. He has circulated the membership list of the Roundtable members to the listerv. There will be a presentation on performance funding and how it has worked in other states. There will also be a presentation from David Longenfelder, Executive Director of WICHE. Hillman said that Longenfelder has a good perspective on how things are working in higher education. He said that he has shared the background materials with the council. Following the September 13 and 14 Roundtable meeting, there will be one more meeting of the Interim Higher Education Committee on October 7. They are expected to make their final recommendations.

Board – Hillman said that the board has been operating more and more by special task forces and committees. The Executive Compensation Committee met with the Chancellor’s Cabinet on September 1. The Board Mission Review Task Force will be meeting this afternoon and will be considering the recommendations coming out of the cabinet and AAC to approve the Stage I requests from DSU and MaSU to offer limited graduate credit. The board meeting will be in Bottineau next week. Hillman said the issue he continues to work on in preparation for next week’s board meeting is the joint request from NDSU and UND to offer the Master in Public Health programs.

Cabinet – The major focus of the cabinet discussion was on compensation issues. This is a very raw issue with presidents.
AAC – Hillman said they just met on Tuesday. The council had a special meeting with Representative Mark Dosch who questioned the value and need for tenure in North Dakota. They had an excellent and productive discussion. Hillman said the provosts did a great job in providing a campus perspective. The council feels that tenure is a great management tool. There was a discussion on the CUM GPA issue. Hillman said that he is committed to making institutional GPA as functional as possible.

**Student Affairs Discussion Paper Update**
Duben-Kalash reported that IVN sites are still being located on all campuses. A final list of these IVN sites will be sent out prior to the next meeting. This item will be put on the council’s next agenda. The December SAC meeting will be a face-to-face meeting in the Horizon Conference Room. Mathew sent out an email message with a description of each topic to be discussed in December for the Student Affairs Discussion Papers.

**Public Health Task Force**
Haynes reported that in response to the Chancellor’s Cabinet an assembly was held on September 2 to review current board policy as it relates to student health; specifically, Policy 506 and 506.1 pertaining to immunization and immunization TB. The group reviewed and discussed the input from various constituents that indicate that the current policy may need to be revised. Haynes said that the group recognized that there is a changing student population that NDUS institutions serve. In particular, the campuses are seeing a dramatic increase in international students. He said the group talked about some of the challenges that the NDUS institutions face. Haynes said it was decided at the meeting to invite Kirby Kruger, ND Department of Health, to the next SAC meeting in October to discuss these issues a little bit more in depth. The concept of overall student health will also be discussed at the October 14 SAC meeting.

Betting said that the group also visited about faculty and staff and domestic students traveling abroad for an extended period of time. Eslinger suggested the group continue to keep in communication with their entities regarding what they are seeing as needs for the MHEC health insurance product. She said we would want to make sure when we bid the product that anything the group is working on be include in the specifications for the bid and make sure there is coverage for that.

**Plans for 2011 Professional Development Workshop**
Pullen said that she talked with Dr. Vincent Tinto about speaking at the next SAC Workshop. She said that she explained what the SAC’s overarching intent was for the conference to look at retention and how that applies to student attainment of their goals. Pullen said that it is Dr. Tinto’s belief that retention cannot be achieved without equal input from faculty and academic administrators. She said that if we intend on doing a student affairs only retention discussion, Dr. Tinto recommended George Kuh or John Gardner to be the speaker. George Kuh has been successful in providing student affairs personnel with a model for retention. Pullen said that Dr. Tinto costs $10,000 plus expenses.

Hillman said that 2011 is a legislative assembly year. This is a topic of major interest not just for the student affairs council but it is a key part of the board’s plan which is based on key success and getting students through. Hillman said that he would like to recommend to the chancellor.
that this be a system conference and system funds bring in Dr. Vincent Tinto. He suggested inviting board members, faculty, academic administrators, legislators and members of the next Interim Higher Education Committee to understand issues that are involved and perhaps why we need their help. Pullen said that Dr. Tinto said that he was very interested in it being a system initiative. Hillman suggested contracting with a campus such as BSC, UND, etc. to help put the conference together.

It was suggested to do a smaller workshop for SAC a month prior to the summit. The council had concerns with the cost and freeing people up to attend both the summit and SAC workshop. Council members felt that the summit would be sufficient.

**It was moved** by Gerszewski, seconded by Mathew, to recommend that the system consider having a retention summit preferably in the Spring of 2011 with a keynote speaker such as Dr. Vincent Tinto to help focus the discussion. The summit would include legislators, board members, and other key stakeholders. The motion was unanimous. Hillman said that he would suggest a decision be made by the chancellor by the next SAC meeting.

**NDHECSAP Report**

Vangsness Frisch said that the North Dakota Partners in Prevention Grant is off and running. A graduate research assistant has been hired through the NDUS that is funded through the North Dakota Partners in Prevention Grant. The graduate research assistant will assist Vangsness with all the data collection required for the North Dakota Partners in Prevention Grant. The late night events associated with this grant are student driven and student planned. They look very different from campus to campus. Campuses will pay for these late night events but will be reimbursed from the grant funds after submitting a detailed budget and invoices that the campus has paid. CORE Drug and Alcohol Survey will be administered in October of this year.

Vangsness Frisch said that the consortium has been approached by the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW). This group is made up of various entities in ND. This group strives to be a data warehouse of all the different data that is collected regarding high risk use behaviors in the state. She said the feedback that the group has gotten is that the data needs to be more user friendly to the public. The group has decided to develop a Web site state maintained that will house all data and be searchable by area and county. Vangsness Frisch said that SEOW wants the data from each campus. This raises a special circumstance with the NDUS core data. She said the consortium is comfortable releasing the aggregate data but not the core data.

**It was moved** by Gerszewski, seconded by Solem, that the council understands the importance of responding to the public request for campus specific data related to the survey and suggests that data be released with a statement that puts the individual campus data into perspective. The campus specific data available to the consortium would be released. The motion was unanimous.

Vangsness Frisch said that she has been working with campuses in adjusting higher risk population. She said that she has been working with campuses to share the Choices Program with the high risk groups. She thanked the campuses for taking advantage of Choices Program and let other campuses know that that is available. Vangsness Frisch commended all campuses on their implementation of e-CHUG.
CIO Update

Thursby said that the process has begun for moving to a consistent email and calendar system. VCSU, MaSU and MiSU have moved over already. The other institutions will be moving over during the next year. He said the system office intends to move over the end of September for e-mail and calendar. The institution will have access to SharePoint which is a content document management system from Microsoft. The institutions will also have Live Meeting and Instant Messaging. Thursby said the institutions will also be moving to Microsoft Active Directory. This will allow a common identifier across the university system unique to each individual. BSC has started moving to it as the pilot. Other campuses will be moving to that during the next year.

Thursby said that over the summer all IVN or two way video units were upgraded across the state to high definition. He said that desk top type units or conference units are being put in for the use by the president or their administration. These units will be used for communication with the system office or between campuses. Thursby said that this process will be completed by next week.

Update on CUM GPA

Hillman said that there is background information and general policy direction that is recommended in the materials. He said that this is an issue that we have struggled with in the system. Hillman said that most recently, it came to the chancellor’s attention that we made a promise in implementing an audit recommendation and that has not been consistently implemented across the system. He said there is also the issue with state scholarships dependent upon GPAs and a consistent use of the term GPA and the assumption that mean cumulative GPA. The third issue is satisfactory academic progress. Hillman said the intention is to have this be implemented appropriately and consistently on each campus and to have ConnectND support that with the appropriate calculation. He said that these three issues together have made a compelling case for CUM GPA being the base GPA within the system. Hillman said we are looking at moving ahead with a definition and plans within ConnectND to have a true CUM GPA be the core of the ConnectND system. He said that we are also looking at using a common definition of institutional GPA to make that available to campuses for campus use in terms of campus awards and graduation criteria.

Thursby said that we do have the capabilities to generate calculations for institutional GPA, CUM GPA and transfer GPA. He said that this was noted to the institutions in May of this year. He said that they are making adjustments so that we store CUM, institutional and maybe transfer GPA. Thursby said that CUM GPA is required for ND scholarships. He said that this requires a full CUM GPA to be calculated. He said the difficulty we have with CUM GPA calculations right now is that until the Fall of 2009 not all institutions entered courses for transfer students. Thursby said that in the Fall of 2009, registrars agreed to enter all transfer courses and grade information. He said that if we have all that information we can effectively calculate CUM, institutional and transfer GPA by the end of this fall. He said that in some cases, data is going to have to be cleaned up on student by the institution before this calculation can be depended on. Hillman said that both CUM and institutional GPA will most likely be on the student transcript. Mathew suggested that we make sure to keep the appropriate people driving these issues informed.
Announcements
Boyd said that the search for his replacement is moving along. The search committee is now down to a number of candidates that they would like to interview by telephone. They intend to do that in the next week or so. They hope to have candidates on campus the end of September or the first part of October.

Future Meetings
The next council meeting will be on October 14 at Bismarck State College.

The council adjourned at 2:00.