North Dakota State Board of Higher Education
Minutes – September 6, 2013

Members present:
Dr. Kirsten Diederich, Vice President  Dr. Terry Hjelmstad, Vice President
Mr. Duaine Espegard  Ms. Kari Reichert
Mr. Devin Hoffarth  Ms. Kathleen Neset
Ms. Janice Hoffarth, Staff Adviser  Dr. Douglas Munski, Faculty Adviser
Mr. Don Morton

Staff members present:
Dr. Larry C. Skogen, Acting Chancellor
Ms. Lisa Feldner, Vice Chancellor for Information Technology and Institutional Research
Ms. Claire Holloway, General Counsel
Ms. Linda Donlin, Director of Communications and Media Relations
Ms. Kristie Hetzler, SBHE Assistant
Mr. Noah Brisbin, Assistant General Counsel

Also Present:
Dr. Narcisa A. Polonio, Association of Community College of Trustees (ACCT)

The State Board of Higher Education met on Friday, September 6, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. CT, in the Board room at the Workforce Safety Insurance building, 1600 East Century Avenue, Bismarck ND.

Approval of Board agenda
It was moved by Hoffarth, seconded by Morton, to approve the Board agenda. The motion carried.

Interim Chancellor Search - discussion, interviews, and selection of candidates for further consideration
Prior to the interviews, Dr. Polonio reiterated what the board members had listed as priorities in the characteristics that they were looking for in an interim Chancellor. Some of the characteristics were, trustworthy, supportive of the Presidents and the system office staff, confident, and experience working with the legislative process. Dr. Polonio discussed each of the questions and requested that the board members provide input. Members indicated that some characteristics that they would like to see in the interim chancellor is stability, unification, trust, moving the pathways to student success forward, helping with direction of system office, working with partnerships with the legislature and communities, and having constituents come together.

Larry C. Skogen
One of the priorities of the interim Chancellor is to rebuild trust throughout the system. The collaboration and working relationships between the institutions, system office staff, State Board members, legislators, and the citizens is extremely important. The next eighteen months are going to be crucial; the November 2014 vote will indicate the governance of higher education in North Dakota, and we need to work with the institutions. It is important that the interim chancellor move the system forward.

Gordan Davies
The role of the chancellor and the system office staff is to serve the students of North Dakota. The role is not a matter of leadership; it is to meet the needs of the people. It is important to be honest and try to avoid division, there will always be different perspectives and interests; it is important to recognize the differences in the needs demographically and work with the institutions individually.

**Bruce Furness**
I can make a difference; I have a passion and interest in public service and I bring an outside view. One priority would be is to find out what the Presidents and board members want and what their issues are. It is important to visit with all the institutions on a one on one basis and to get as much input from all resources and bring it together abiding by policy and procedure.

**Kendall Blanchard**
The Chancellor will have the role of working with all institutions and to work as a team, camaraderie is important. It is important to have a firm foundation and build on that; make the people believe in you and your work. A good leader needs to compromise and work as a team, build trust, and do the work that is best for most.

**Shane Goettle**
The student is our primary mission and we should always ask ourselves how we can serve the students more effectively and efficiently. It is critical to reach out to the stakeholders, rebuild trust and confidence in the system, and set clear goals. It is also very important that the system is meeting the state’s social and economic needs, and clearly understands what the policy makers would like to achieve. A chancellor is an agent of the board; that individual should be able to communicate and implement the policies that the board approves.

**Michael Wartell**
Interacting throughout the statewide communities and being open and transparent would help develop trust back in to the system. There needs to be strong, supportive relationships between everyone within the system. Flexibility is necessary in order for the institutions to grow and achieve their maximum potential. Communication between the constituents needs to be extremely strong and the system needs to be accountable to those constituents.

**It was moved** by Morton, seconded by Espegard, for each board member to list their top three most desirable candidates. Espegard, Hjelmstad, Hoffarth, Morton, and Diederich voted yes; Reichert voted no; Neset and Shaft absent. The motion carried.

Mr. Espegard, Dr. Hjelmstad, Mr. Morton, and President Diederich voted for Larry C. Skogen, Shane Goettle, and Bruce Furness. Ms. Reichert voted for Larry C. Skogen, Shane Goettle, and Gordan Davies. Ms. Neset absent.

**It was moved** by Espegard, seconded by Morton, to bring candidates Larry C. Skogen, Shane Goettle, and Bruce Furness for a second interview. Espegard, Hjelmstad, Hoffarth, Morton, and Diederich voted yes; Reichert voted no; Neset and Shaft absent. The motion carried.

Dr. Polonio stated that the next steps are to have second interview with each of the three candidates listed by IVN or face to face, or have them conduct a presentation, conduct background checks, and discuss whether or not there should be any restrictions such as; if they are interim chancellor they would be eligible to apply for permanent chancellor position. She also asked the board members to start considering if they would like to put a committee together to do the interim chancellor contract terms, some of the components should be termination and separation agreements. ACCT will follow up with the candidates in regards to today’s voting results.

The board members can decide whether they want to be face to face or participate through IVN for the second interviews. The board agreed that putting the contract(s) together prior to the next round of interviews was necessary.
Selection of a voting delegate to attend Association of Community College Trustees Leadership Conference

It was moved by Morton, seconded by President Diederich to nominate Mr. Duaine Espegard as the voting member of the State Board of Higher Education to attend the ACCT conference. All those present voted yes; Shaft absent. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. CT.