North Dakota State Board of Higher Education
Minutes of the November 20, 2014, Meeting
North Dakota State University, Fargo

An Association of Governing Board consultant, Dr. Tom Meredith, conducted Board training from 8:05 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. CT., on the following topics:
- Board Governance
- Fiduciary Duties
- Self-Assessment
- Board Agenda Structure
- Future Challenges
- Internal and External Relationships

Break from 10:30 a.m. CT to 10:45 a.m. CT.

Board Chair Diederich called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. CT.

Members present:

Dr. Kirsten Diederich, Board Chair
Mr. Grant Shaft
Ms. Kari Reichert
Dr. Eric Murphy, Faculty Adviser
Dr. Kevin Melicher

Dr. Terry Hjelmstad, Vice Chair
Mr. Chris McEwen
Ms. Janice Hoffarth, Staff Adviser
Ms. Kathleen Neset
Mr. Don Morton

Interim Chancellor present: Dr. Larry C. Skogen

Institution Presidents present:

Dr. Ken Grosz, Dean, DCB
Dr. Doug Darling, President, LRSC
Dr. Gary Hagen, President, MaSU
Dr. John Richman, President, NDSCS
Dr. Dean Bresciani, NDSU
Dr. Robert Kelley, President, UND
Dr. Margaret Dahlberg, Interim President, VCSU
Mr. Drake Carter, Provost/VP for Academic & Student Affairs, BSC
Dr. Steve Shirley, President, MiSU
Dr. Raymond Nadolny, President, WSC
Dr. D.C Coston, President, DSU

NDUS senior staff present:

Dr. Sonia Cowen, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Ms. Linda Donlin, Director of Communications and Media Relations
Ms. Cynthia Goulet, General Counsel
Ms. Tracy Kolb, Assistant General Counsel
Approval of Board Agenda
Melicher moved, McEwen seconded, to approve agenda with the addition of the following items to be discussed:

- Chancellor search timeline
- Committee structure

Neset, Shaft, Hjelmstad, Melicher, McEwen, Morton, Reichert, and Diederich voted yes. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes
McEwen moved, Morton seconded, to approve the following Board meeting minutes:

- October 2, 2014
- October 30, 2014
- November 6, 2014

Melicher, Neset, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert, and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

Admissions Standards
Dr. Sonia Cowen reviewed the revised recommendations of the Admissions Taskforce.

The Taskforce recommended the following general undergraduate admissions index for UND and NDSU, effective fall of 2016:

1. Admit first-time, full-time college students who have a minimum composite ACT score of 22 and minimal cumulative high school GPA of 2.75.
2. Enable NDSU and UND to admit first-time, full-time college students who have ACT scores and/or cumulative high school GPAs below this standard if they demonstrate potential to succeed academically, based on other factors.
3. Require that first-time, full-time college students who have graduated from North Dakota high schools, who are under the age of 25 on the first day of class, and who seek admission:
   a. In the fall of 2016, have completed successfully a minimum of 13 courses of this State’s high school core curriculum;
   b. In the fall of 2017, have completed successfully a minimum of 14 courses of this State’s high school core curriculum; and
   c. In the fall of 2018 and thereafter, have completed successfully a minimum of 15 courses of this State’s high school core curriculum.

The Task Force recommended the following general undergraduate admissions index for NDUS regional universities and MiSU, effective fall of 2016, for first-time, full-time college students: as proposed to the SBHE on June 26, 2014.

The Task Force further recommended the SBHE monitor the impact of increased admissions standards on enrollment.
Melicher moved, McEwen seconded, to approve the recommended admission standards.

Melicher, Neset, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

Board Member Ms. Kathleen Neset departed the meeting at 11:30 a.m. CT.

High Performance Computing
Dr. Josh Riedy and Dr. Tom DiLorenzo explained the benefits of high performance computing for the State and NDUS. A collaborative center for computation and data could achieve national leadership in advanced computational research and development through the exploitation of two major opportunities. First, having new, highly capable systems would enable recruiting and sustaining of the other leadership component: talent/expertise. The second major reason is that truly collaborative, academic–industry partnerships in advanced computational research are still relatively new; there are few true leaders in this context. North Dakota would leverage its current competitive positions in petroleum, agriculture, and aviation to create new computational programs focused on collaboration and technology transfer, while using new computing capabilities and expertise to create and grow programs in medicine, healthcare and big data analytics, which is increasingly important across all industry, education, and public policy sectors.

McEwen moved, Shaft seconded, to support hosting enhanced high performance computing resources in the form of a collaborative center for computation and data intended to serve the State, including all North Dakota universities and companies choosing to participate. Furthermore, the SBHE requests inclusion of such resources in the Governor’s Executive Budget similar to that of the Northern Tier Network.

Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

Approve Draft Legislation
Interim Chancellor Skogen discussed bills that may be pre-filed for the 2015 legislative session:

Open records
- Exempting 360 personnel reviews of the presidents
- Exempting the working papers of the NDUS chief auditor

Grants
- Increasing the individual grants in the student financial assistance program from $1600 to $2000 per recipient per academic year

Facilities
- Approval of the Woods Hall renovation project at DSU
- Purchase of additional land for the Dickinson Research Extension Center
- Clearly defining maintenance work so that the NDUS would not have to retain an architect/engineer for certain maintenance projects (e.g., $120,000 painting project)
- Streamlining the demolition process on certain buildings (e.g., old barn or shed)

Dr. Skogen noted that the bills would not be pre-filed if individual legislators intend to submit bills that would address these issues.

Melicher moved, McEwen seconded, to authorize the Chancellor, after consulting with the Chair of the State Board of Higher Education, to pre-file appropriate bills with the Legislative Council.
Shaft, Hjelmstad, Melicher, McEwen, Morton, Reichert and Diederich voted yes. The motion carried.

**SBHE Meeting December 18, 2014**
Chair Diederich stated that a few Board members will be out of the country on December 18th, 2014. She recommended the meeting be cancelled.

Shaft moved, Morton seconded, to cancel the December 18, 2018, Board meeting.

Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

**Special Board Meeting December 9, 2014**
Chair Diederich proposed a special Board meeting on December 9, 2014, to focus on the chancellor search timeline and process.

Shaft moved, Morton seconded, to approve a special Board meeting on December 9, 2014.

Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

**SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee**
Chair Reichert stated the SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommended approval of the following tenure requests:

- North Dakota State University
  - Michael James Yellow Bird, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

- The University of North Dakota
  - Malak Kotb, Ph.D., Professor of Basic Sciences, Department of Basic Sciences, School of Medicine and Health Sciences;
  - Ralph Renger, Ph.D., Professor of Family and Community Medicine, Family and Community Medicine, School of Medicine and Health Sciences;
  - Gayle Roux, Ph.D., Professor of Graduate Nursing, Department of Graduate Nursing, College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines;
  - Larry Williams, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences; and,
  - Margaret Williams, Ph.D., Professor of Management, Department of Management, College of Business and Public Administration.

Hjelmstad moved, McEwen seconded, to approve the SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee tenure recommendations.

Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.
NDSU Finance Revenue Bonds
McEwen moved, Melicher seconded, to approve the following NDSU requests authorization to refinance housing/auxiliary revenue bonds:

1. Authorize issuance of not-to-exceed $24,000,000 State Board of Higher Education of the State of North Dakota, NDSU Housing and Auxiliary Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2015A, for the purpose of refinancing the outstanding NDSU Housing and Auxiliary Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2005, Series 2006A and Series 2006B Bonds, maturing on and after April 1, 2015, and paying the costs of issuance of the Series 2015A;
2. Authorize the NDSU President and Vice President for Finance and Administration to approve the sale of the bonds (Series 2015A) provided that the rate not exceed 5% and provided the present value of the debt service savings is not less than 3%. The approximate final date upon which the principal amount of the obligation will mature or become payable is April 1, 2036; and
3. Appoint the firm of Arntson Stewart Wegner PC as the bond counsel and Fieldman, Rolapp & Associates (Independent Financial Advisors to Government) as the financial advisor.

Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

Interim Chancellor’s Report
In November, the Higher Learning Commission notified Interim Chancellor Skogen that it is requiring an interim report (no later than September 1, 2015) and a focused visit (no later than November 29, 2015). Interim Chancellor Skogen called the HLC for clarification and was informed that it is expecting a single interim report from the system and will be conducting a single visit to the system office similar to the visit in April 2014. As anticipated, the report and focus visit will only focus on Criterion Five, Core Component 5.D.

Dr. Skogen updated the Board regarding the DSU Foundation’s financial situation. The university system office, DSU, and the ND Attorney General’s office are cooperating to address the issues. Dr. Skogen will continue to keep the Board apprised on this matter.

Counsel of College Faculties (CCF) Report
Mr. Fernando Quijano indicated the CCF will be holding their annual face-to-face meeting January 29, 2015, in Bismarck.

Staff Senate Report
Ms. Emma Tufte stated the staff senate is currently taking nominations for staff advisor to the State Board of Higher Education. The elections will be held in January 2015.

North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) Report
Mr. Conner Swanson informed the Board that he is resigning his position as President of the NDSA, effective fall 2015. He has taken a position at the State legislature. Mr. Zachary Niebuhr will be the next NDSA president and a new vice president will be elected. Mr. Connor stated that Kelsey Klein will be the NDSA lobbyist for the upcoming session.
Public Comment
Senator Connie Triplett, Grand Forks, stated she was pleased to hear the Board’s desire to improve communication with legislators. However, Senator Triplett expressed areas of concerns she would like the Board to consider for future discussion. She stated faculty pay is extremely low and there is not a clear definition of what it means to be a research institution, and she would like the Board to reconsider its policy that gives the presidents of the institutions full authority to run the campuses.

Board Policy
The following policies were considered for second reading and final adoption:

McEwen moved, Morton seconded, to approve SBHE Policy 805.3, Application Fees.
Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

McEwen moved, Melicher seconded, to approve SBHE Policy 611.2, Intellectual Property.
Shaft, Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

McEwen moved, Hjelmstad seconded, to approve SBHE Policy 1912, Record Retention.
Melicher, Hjelmstad, McEwen, Diederich, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.

Melicher moved, Hjelmstad seconded, to approve the HR Policy 23.2, Resignation.
McEwen, Diederich, Melicher, Hjelmstad, Shaft, Reichert and Morton voted yes. The motion carried.
Shaft motioned to adjourn.

Adjourned at 1:55 p.m. CT

Approved on January 29, 2015, by the State Board of Higher Education.