1. **Issue:** University of North Dakota (UND) has submitted a Stage II request to offer the O.T.D. in Occupational Therapy, CIP Code 51.2306, via distance delivery and on-campus.

2. **Proposed actions:** Approve/deny the Stage II request of UND to offer the O.T.D. in Occupational Therapy, CIP Code 51.2306, via distance delivery and on-campus.

3. **Background information:** The University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences is the only institution in the North Dakota University System that currently offers a Master’s of Occupational Therapy degree. The professional trend is for the degree level to move to the doctoral level. Programs in ND, MN, and SD that offer occupational therapy either offer or are in the process of moving to an Occupational Therapy Doctorate. UND will need to offer this program to help students remain competitive in the job market.

4. **Financial implications:** No additional instructional positions are anticipated to be hired for this program. No additional equipment is needed at this time.

5. **Legal/policy issues:** State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) Policy 403.1 Program Approval states: “Board approval is required for all new programs of study that designate a focused collection of instructional/learning activities the completion of which signifies a level of competence which the awarding institution so designates by a notation on the front of the student transcript.”

6. **Academic issues:** No academic issues were raised at the April 5, 2017 Academic Affairs Council (AAC) meeting.

7. **Coordination:** On April 5, 2017, the AAC voted unanimously to recommend the Stage II request for review by the Chancellor’s Cabinet and advance to the SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee/SBHE for approval/denial.

8. **Attachments:** The Stage II request is attached.

9. **Contact information:** Richard M. Rothaus, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, NDUS. Ph: 701-328-4136/email: richard.rothaus@ndus.edu.

10. **Chancellor’s recommendation:** Chancellor recommends approval.