

**North Dakota State Board of Higher Education
Special Research and Governance Committee**

December 15, 2021, Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research and Governance Committee met on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 3:15 p.m. CT, via teams and/or conference call.

Co-chairs Ryan and Bye called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. CT.

SBHE Research Committee members participating:

Dr. Casey Ryan, Chair
Ms. Danita Bye
Dr. John Warford
Dr. Legerski, SBHE Faculty Adviser

NDUS staff participating:

Chancellor Mark Hagerott, NDUS
Ms. Dina Cashman, NDUS
Mr. David Krebsbach, NDUS
Ms. Lisa Johnson, NDUS
Ms. Karol Riedman, NDUS
Mr. Jerry Rostad, NDUS
Ms. Terry Meyer, NDUS

Others Participating:

Dr. John Mihelich, UND
President Dean Bresciani, NDSU
Dr. Collen Fitzgerald, NDSU
Dr. David DeMuth, VCSU
Mr. Eric Olson, AG Office

RESEARCH ITEMS

1. INBRE

Dr. Mihelich provided an update on the restructuring of the administration of the INBRE grant. UND is currently working through the process of moving the administration of INBRE to the VPR office in collaboration with the Med school. There will be a search for an individual that will be the new Pi and have a role as a faculty member; that search is scheduled to begin January 1st, 2022. The search will be a collaborative effort with the VP's office and Dr. Wynne, Dean of the Medical School. Dr. Mihelich stated the hiring decision would be a joint one.

The committee discussed the organizational structure of staff/faculty working with various other grants. Dr. Mihelich explained there is a working group to determine how to re-organize current staff/faculty, a reporting structure that ensures proper communication between various partnerships and/or contracts, and all current research activities, to ensure coordination of all parties. At this point, it is undetermined if an additional staff member will be required. The UND research group will continue to work on efficiencies, collaboration, and consistent lines of communication.

Committee members also discussed the mission of INBRE, the need to continue building on the research work with tribal colleges and working with legislation for more research funding.

2. **EPSCoR**

The committee discussed the necessary cross connection between NDSU and UND for both EPSCoR and INBRE to elevate research within the state. They identified the grants are not identical and that EPSCoR and INBRE have different requirements that need to be fulfilled. They recognized the funding is limited but stated the efforts to work with various types of industry and stakeholders across the state remains a vital component to expand research in the State. Both EPSCoR and INBRE will be working together to collaborate and/or contract with the other nine colleges and tribal colleges on research initiatives.

President Bresciani stated that there is work efforts being done in every county of the state and the five tribes remain essential on both the research and economic development fronts. He stated they have people in various locations working consistently and positively with each tribal community within the ND state borders.

Williston State College will provide a presentation on their research initiative to the committee at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. CT.

Approved January 19, 2022.