

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

January 19, 2022, Research and Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research and Governance Committee met on Wednesday, January 19th, 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 Committee members participating:

Dr. Casey Ryan, Chair
Ms. Danita Bye
Dr. John Warford
Dr. Elizabeth Legerski, SBHE Faculty Adviser
Mr. Jeffry Volk, Invited SBHE Member

NDUS staff participating:

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

Others Participating:

President Darling, LRSC
President Easton, DSU
President LaFave, VCSU
President Hirling, BSC
President Armacost, UND
President Bresciani, NDSU
President (Interim) Link, NDSCS
Dr. John Mihelich, UND
Dr. Collen Fitzgerald, NDSU
Dr. David DeMuth, VCSU
Dr. Kim Weismann, WSC
Ms. Kimberli Wray, WSC
Mr. Eric Olson, AG Office

1. **Agenda**

Warford moved, Bye seconded, to approve the agenda as presented.

Bye, Warford, and Ryan voted yes.

2. **Meeting Minutes**

Warford moved, Bye seconded, to approve the November 17 and December 15, 2021, meeting minutes.

Bye, Warford, and Ryan voted yes.

3. **Williston State College Research Presentation**

President Hirling and Dr. Kim Weismann presented on [Williston State College's research activities](#).

RESEARCH ITEMS:

4. **INBRE Update**

Dr. Mihelich provided an update on the administrative part of their grant, including the position of PI, the departments roles, responsibilities, and reporting structure(s).

5. **5-State USICA**

Chancellor Hagerott provided an update on the 5-state USICA. North Dakota is making a lot of progress and will continue to work with legislators and all other stakeholders to continue making progress. He thanked the Vice Presidents of research for their continued work and support to address the underserved population of North Dakota.

GOVERNANCE ITEMS:

6. **2021 SBHE Self-Assessment Priorities discussion:**

- a. [Mission/Vision/Core Values/ Strategic Planning](#)
- b. [Cybersecurity and other issues](#), both technical and non-technical that could affect Technology
- c. [Continued advancement of online learning](#)

Mr. Jerry Rostad and Mr. Darin King gave an overview on the 2021 SBHE self-assessment priorities. The committee agreed they will continue to review and prepare for the 2022 SBHE retreat, including a review of their current strategic plan. The current plan is a working document that is reviewed on an annual basis.

7. **Proposal for Potential SBHE Committee Realignment**

Mr. Eric Olson presented some options to realign the [SBHE Committee structure](#) for efficiencies and to address communication barriers for the members. He stated that legislative bill(s) were passed during last session that allows for more flexibility in the committee structure and open lines of communication between members without violating state law(s). The committee members expressed concerns and requested that the Chancellor's staff review and make recommendations at the February committee meeting.

8. **Policy Review Process Information**

Ms. Karol Riedman reviewed the [NDUS policy review process](#) and explained how input for proposed policy and procedures are incorporated and documented throughout the process, prior to the Board considering policy amendments. The process includes representatives from campuses, system office, faculty, and staff, that serve on several councils. After council review/input, the policies and procedures are reviewed at the Chancellor's Cabinet. The input is documented in the Board summary page and attached to the SBHE agendas. Best practice is to have a first and second reading to allow for additional review/input, however, first reading can be waived if it is time sensitive, such as, addressing legislative changes and/or deadlines.

9. **Policy 311, Public Records**

Mr. Eric Olson reviewed proposed amendments to [Policy 311](#), Public Records, and stated he had a discussion with member Volk about his questions and/or concerns with the proposed language. After further discussion, the committee requested that Policy 311 be circulated through the council and Cabinet, and they will re-visit it at their February meeting.

Ryan moved, Warford seconded, to have Policy 311 go through the policy review process.

Warford, Ryan, and Bye voted yes.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. CT.

Approved February 16, 2022.