North Dakota State Board of Higher Education
April 19, 2023, Research and Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research and Governance Committee met on Wednesday, April 19th, at 3:15 p.m. CT, via Teams.

Committee Co-Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. CT.

SBHE Committee members participating:
    Dr. Casey Ryan, Co-Chair
    Ms. Danita Bye, Co-Chair
    Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, Faculty Advisor

NDUS staff participating:
    Chancellor Hagerott, NDUS
    Mr. Jerry Rostad, NDUS
    Ms. Terry Meyer, NDUS
    Mr. Darin King, NDUS
    Ms. Dina Cashman, NDUS
    Ms. Mindy Sturn, NDUS
    Mr. Chris Pieske, NDUS

Others Participating:
    Dean Carmen Simone, DCB
    President Easton, DSU
    President Darling, LRSC
    President Flanagan, NDSCS
    President Cook, Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald, Dr. Fellows, NDSU
    President Armacost, Dr. John Mihelich, UND
    President Van Horn, MaSU
    President Shirley, MiSU
    President LaFave, VCSU
    President Hirning, WSC
    Dr. Delore Zimmerman, VPP
    Dr. David DeMuth, Regional
    Ms. Meredith Larson, Asst Attorney General

1. **Agenda**
   And
2. **March 22, 2023, Meeting Minutes**
   Bye moved, Ryan seconded, to approve the agenda and March 22, 2023, meeting minutes.

   Bye and Ryan voted yes. Motion passed.

Research Items:

3. **CHIPS Act**
   Chancellor Hagerott, Dr. Mihelich, and Dr. Fitzgerald provided an update on the CHIPS ACT. They stated the working group they are leading remains committed to the five-state consortium initiative and will continue to work towards a partnership. As more information becomes available and/or progress is made, they will keep the committee informed.

4. **Discuss Research Working Groups/Legislation, HB 1379**
   The committee discussed current legislative bills related to research and noted that potential funding for the system has been moved from HB1379 to HB1003. There has been no final action taken by legislators and the system office will continue to monitor and assist moving forward.

5. **HERD Data for SBHE Goal #5: 1) Institutionally finance research, 2) cost sharing, and 3) unrecovered indirect costs**
   Co-chair Ryan stated that he will be setting up separate meetings with the UND and NDSU Presidents and Vice Presidents of Research, to discuss methodologies for fundraising. He also stated that planning needs to begin and there will be a report back to the committee next month. Dr. Ryan informed members that he requested Dr. Fitzgerald to collect some preliminary HERD data.

   Dr. Demuth shared information presented to the legislators on March 24th, for the first annual undergraduate research roadshow.

6. **Policy and Procedure Flow Chart**
   Mr. Chris Pieske explained the policy and procedure flow chart; it explains how they are distributed for input throughout the system and involves collecting input from representatives from various departments of each institution.

7. **SBHE Policy 330**
   Mr. Chris Pieske presented minor proposed edits to Policy 330. The policy has been revised to clarify the roles of the NDUS office and its legal counsel in making non-substantive changes to SBHE policies.

   Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend approval of first reading for Policy 330.

   Bye and Ryan voted yes. Motion passed.

   Mr. Jerry Rostad reviewed the proposed amendments to the following Policies 100.3, 302.3, and 302.7 (item 8 – 10):

8. **SBHE Policy 100.6**
   Mr. Rostad explained that during the Board's March meeting, they directed the policy back to the Committee for further discussion and proposed amendments, as discussed. and the Board sent it back to this committee to be reworked. Since last month section three and five have been added and section 4d was amended, as discussed last month. The committee discussed section five related to members of the SBHE shall not serve on other NDUS campus-based boards or campus-based foundation boards. They acknowledged there might be further discussion at the full Board next week but agreed to move forward to get additional input.

   Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend approval of first reading for Policy 100.6.

Bye and Ryan voted yes. Motion passed.

9. **SBHE Policy 302.3**
Mr. Rostad stated the amendments were made to balance similar language in all other committee policies regarding term limits. The language that limits terms for Board members to serve on the Budget and Finance Committee was removed. Another edit is related to information technology matters that have a significant financial impact on NDUS. Language was added that states those matters will be brought to the Budget and Finance Committee for consideration. The committee discussed identifying a specific threshold or if the threshold component is more appropriate in NDUS Procedures; after further discussion they requested to receive input from the Admin Affairs Council, have the SBHE BFC review, and come back to this committee.

Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend tabling Policy 302.3 until their May meeting to consider additional input from Admin Affairs Council.

Bye and Ryan voted yes. Motion passed.

10. **SBHE Policy 302.7**
The committee discussed and had no further concerns.

Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend approval.

Ryan and Bye voted yes.

Mr. Darin King reviewed the proposed IT and CTS Strategic Plans, items 11 and 12.

11. **2023-2025 NDUS IT Strategic Plan**
Mr. Darin King informed the committee that the NDUS IT Strategic Plan is required through Century Code to develop a strategic IT plan in coordination with campuses and the State Information Technology department (ITD). As part of that process, he has incorporated an internal Core Technology System (CTS) Strategic Plan. The NDUS IT Strategic Plan was developed over the course of a day and a half long retreat with all the campus CIO staff and Bismarck, followed by a two or three more hour to two-hour long meetings. The group of CIO staff identified four strategic goals that would align with the goals of the SBHE. Those are infrastructure, digital transformation, user experience, and enhanced collaborative efforts. He reminded the committee that each of them has strategic objectives, not just CTS, it includes the NDUS campuses.

Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend approval of the 2023-2025 NDUS IT Strategic Plan.

Ryan and Bye voted yes.

12. **2023-2025 CTS Strategic Plan**
The CTS plan focuses on three main areas: a workplace culture, service satisfaction, and information access.

Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend approval of the 2023-2025 NDUS CTS Strategic Plan.

Ryan and Bye voted yes.

13. **Dakota College at Bottineau Mission Statement Update**
    DCB's proposed new mission statement - Dakota College at Bottineau provides a quality education in a caring environment.

    Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend approval of DCB new mission statement.

    Ryan and Bye voted yes.

14. **Review Draft SBHE Self-Assessment**
    Mr. Chris Pieske reviewed the draft SBHE self-assessment survey results that were compiled by all Board member's responses. The committee discussed that most results indicated the Board

    When you see the negative comments, is it everyone? Each of the 10 members had negative comments. Are we seeing one member was ten negative comments? Because and I I know we don't need to know, but that does make a difference because of if it's one person as opposed to 10.

    You have to be concerned.

    For a variety of reasons, how well does that person understand the system and how we're trying to work as a team? And again, I'm, I'm sure they'll be more discussion on it, but overall, the way I interpret it is most comments were favorable with.
    Usually about eight people in favor of of, you know, either very favorable or favorable I I guess we said strongly agree or agree. So you know anywhere from 8 to 9. But I I just put that out there because this is how data can be misconstrued because if if you have one person who's totally unhappy with everything. That's a lot different than if 10 people are unhappy with with ten different things, so I'll I'll just make that as comment. Don't know if it needs to go anywhere, but overall I think it was done in a good way. And you know overall comments and the way it was written up I think was nicely done and I know we the usually covered in there works with you to have the the written statement and I I thought it was.

    The there is no way for me to tell which respondent made which comments, so I I I can't say that it is.
    1:22:27.560 --> 1:22:31.650
    Pieske, Christopher
    You know one one or or two members making a.
    1:22:32.990 --> 1:22:37.20
    Pieske, Christopher
    Consistently making negative comments, but there there were.
    1:22:38.250 --> 1:23:1.580
    Pieske, Christopher
    You know multi in each of the areas, not each of them, but in some of the areas there were you know more than one comment that could that identified a potential area of improvement. Now the responses to the survey questions themselves, almost all of them were in the 80 to 100% range agree or strongly agree. So the comments tended to.
    1:23:2.940 --> 1:23:9.340
    Pieske, Christopher

Identify some areas of improvement more than the responses indicate, but that could just be respondents.
1:23:10.260 --> 1:23:21.790
Pieske, Christopher
You know, taking advantage of the multiple ways that they could provide information. So that's why I, I agree, it's important to look at the responses to the statements as well as the comments that were made.

Co-chair Bye requested she have an opportunity to review further before moving to the full Board, Member Ryan agreed.

Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to recommend approval of the SBHE self-assessment, as presented.

Ryan and Bye voted yes.

15. **Tenure**
Chancellor Hagerott explained that tenure has been a discussion item at previous Board Committees and full Board meetings. The committee discussed current legislation, specifically the language in a bill proposal, but the legislators ultimately voted against it, noting the Board has the authority to address faculty models and tenure. There were legislators that will bring it back to the next legislative session if the Board does not study and/or address tenure. There are several states that have either set limitations on tenure and others that have eliminated entirely. The committee discussed forming a working group to review campuses processes on post tenure review. The working group will be looking for ways the campuses can improve the process. governance. Co-chair Ryan indicated he would be the lead, and the initial thought would be to have one more Board member, the Chancellor, and Vice Chancellor Johnson; we would work with CCF as the faculty representatives to get information on post tenure reviews. The group will
We're not looking at the process that people.

That individuals go through to to get tenure. It's what. How are they fulfilling their contract obligations and how are they, you know, fulfilling citizenship. So we anything that we come up with would come back to the Governance Committee and obviously then would go to the board. But this is not a a one or two meetings process. It could be a year long process, but it needs to happen.

16. **May Board Retreat/Envision 2035**
Mr. Jerry Rostad

Approved May