

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

September 20, 2023, Research and Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research and Governance Committee met on Wednesday, September 20th 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. John Warford, Member
Ms. Sadie Hanson, Student Representative
Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, Faculty Advisor

NDUS staff participating:

Chancellor Hagerott, NDUS
Mr. Jerry Rostad, NDUS
Ms. Terry Meyer, NDUS
Ms. Dina Cashman, NDUS
Ms. Lisa Johnson, NDUS
Mr. David Krebsbach, NDUS
Mr. Chris Pieske, NDUS
Ms. Jane Grinde, NDUS
Mr. Mark Gorenflo, NDUS
Mr. Corey Quirk, CTS

Others Participating:

Dean Carmen Simone, DCB
Mr. Leslie Wietstock, DSU
President Darling, LRSC
President Flanigan, NDSCS
President Hirning, WSC
Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald, Dr. Fellows, NDSU
President Van Horn, Mr. Brian Huschle, MaSU
Dr. Delore Zimmerman, VPP
Dr. David DeMuth, Regional

1. Agenda

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

Warford, Bye, Hanson, and Ryan voted yes. Motion passed.

2. Meeting Minutes

Warford moved, Bye seconded, to approve the June 21, 2023, meeting minutes, as presented.

Hanson, Warford, Bye, and Ryan voted yes. Motion passed.

3. 2024 All Meeting Calendar

A proposed draft 2024 SBHE meeting schedule was presented, the committee discussed and had no opposition. Dr. Montplaisir noted that it can be difficult for faculty to participate based on class schedules that are normally on Tuesday/Thursdays or Monday/Wednesday/Fridays and the SBHE Committees meet on a Wednesday, the full Board meetings are typically on a Thursday. The annual meeting schedules for public agencies are due to the Secretary of State by November 1st.

Ryan moved, Warford seconded, to recommend approval of the 2024 meeting Schedule.

Warford, Hanson, Ryan, and Bye voted yes. Motion passed.

4. Policy 302.4 – Councils

Vice Chancellor Rostad informed the committee members that Policy 302.4 is up for review and explained that it has gone through the NDUS Councils and Chancellor’s Cabinet without any concerns and/or suggested changes. The committee had no recommended changes to the policy.

Ryan moved, Hanson seconded, to recommend approval of 1st reading, waive 2nd reading, of Policy 302.4.

Warford, Hanson, Ryan, and Bye voted yes. Motion passed.

5. Policy 705.1 – Executive Compensation

Vice Chancellor Krebsbach reviewed the proposed changes to Policy 705.1; he explained that no current Presidents and/or the Chancellor receive a vehicle allowance, that provision would be removed. In addition, the Board would no longer directly approve the compensation of Vice Chancellors and other NDUSO Executive officers. Committee Co-chair Bye stated that the 2023 annual reviews were completed in June and won’t occur again until May/June of 2024; she recommended moving review of Policy 705.1 to the committee’s January or February meeting. The other committee members had no opposition to Bye’s recommendation.

Ryan moved, Warford seconded, to table Policy 705.1 until the January or February SBHE Research and Governance Committee meeting.

Hanson, Warford, Ryan, and Bye voted yes.

Ryan withdrew his motion to table Policy 705.1, Warford concurred; the motion was withdrawn for procedural purposes; the system office will have the policy placed on the January or February Committee agenda. All committee members agreed by consensus.

6. Policy 605.1 – Academic Freedom and Tenure; Academic Appointment

Vice Chancellor Johnson provided background information regarding changes to Policy 605.1. At the June Board meeting (2023), the Board reviewed and renewed Presidential contracts, at that time the Board had requested amendments to the policy to expand the award of tenure to the Chief Executive officer(s) who had served 15 years or more as an officer within the North Dakota University System. Vice

Chancellor Johnson also provided additional input from the Council of College Faculty (CCF), noting that the committee members have also received CCF's feedback. The committee discussed and Mr. Pieske provided clarification to the committee members that all NDUS Councils, including CCF and the Chancellor's Cabinet are advisory bodies; the Board is the authority for SBHE Policies and Board agenda items. He further explained that the Board has constitutional authority to manage the University System, including granting of tenure, the board has the authority to make, revise policy, and/or act outside of its own policies.

The committee discussed and concluded that it's not necessary to amend Policy 605.1 for a specific circumstance and the action of granting a President tenure can take place at the full Board meeting. Committee member Ryan stated that he is prepared to make a tenure recommendation for Board consideration at their September meeting. The committee members agreed to advance the presidential tenure nomination forward as an action item on the September full Board agenda, further acknowledging the nomination will be waiving SBHE Policy 605.1.

Ryan moved, Hanson seconded, to waive the terms of Policy 605.1 and proceed to the full Board with a presidential tenure nomination.

Ryan, Hanson, Warford, and Bye voted yes. Motion passed.

7. SBHE Post-Tenure Ad Hoc Committee Update

Co-chair Ryan and Vice Chancellor Johnson provided a brief update on the Ad Hoc Post-Tenure Committee presentations/discussions. Dr. Ryan stated that the meeting last week consisted of receiving information from the two-year institutions and their individual processes/procedures in regard to post-tenure. The October committee meeting will have the four-year institutions present their information, and the following meeting will be the research institutions. Ms. Johnson and Dr. Montplaisir stated that there have been discussions with the College of Campus Faculty (CCF) Council members regarding their feedback and/or input on post-tenure reviews/processes. It was agreed that the committee should have as much information as possible from all eleven individual institutions, prior to receiving additional input from CCF, but before the committee's next steps in their review process.

8. ERP Market Analysis Update

Mr. Corey Quirk provided an update on the ERP Market Analysis.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. CT.

Approved October 18, 2023.