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### North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

October 18, 2023, Research and Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research and Governance Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 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. Lisa Johnson, NDUS  
Mr. David Krebsbach, NDUS  
Mr. Chris Pieske, NDUS  
Ms. Jane Grinde, NDUS  
Mr. Mark Gorenflo, NDUS  
Mr. Darin King, CTS  
Mr. Corey Quirk, CTS

#### Others Participating:

Dean Carmen Simone, DCB  
President Easton, 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  
Ms. Meredith Larson, Assistant Attorney General

Dr. Ryan requested to add an agenda item for other updates, if needed and/or necessary.

1. **Agenda**  
And;
2. **Meeting Minutes**

Warford moved, Hanson seconded, to approve the amended agenda and the September 20, 2023, meeting minutes, as presented.

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

3. **NSF EPSCoR RII Track-1 award Site Visit**

And;

4. **NSF Regional Innovation Engines FARMS finalist Site Visit**

Drs. Fitzgerald Mihelich provided an update on the recent site visits and will continue to provide updates as the process moves forward.

5. **Research Initiative Updates # Economic Diversification Guidelines**

a. Internal and External Committee Membership

Ms. Johnson explained that the Bank of North Dakota expressed interest in reviewing submissions, along with having an advisory committee review them before releasing the funds. Forming the internal/external membership for the advisory committee is close to completion. Dr. Fitzgerald expressed concerns that another layer of review is unnecessary and/or consistent with the current guidelines. The committee discussed the timeline, review process, and distribution of funds.

Dr. Ryan, Dr. Fitzgerald, and Dr. Mihelich have reviewed the proposals and approve; contingent on Dr. DeMuth's approval, the Bank of North Dakota will be notified. The next RGC meeting agenda will have a completed proposal for the internal/external advisory committee, there is one remaining member that NDSU will recommend. Co-chair Ryan asked for a motion to approve the internal advisory committee members, as presented.

Warford moved, Bye seconded, to approve Dr. Ryan, Chancellor Hagerott, Dr Fitzgerald, Dr. Mihelich, and Dr. DeMuth (contingency that Dr. Demuth will confirm with Dr. Ryan).

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

The decision-making process will reside with the internal advisory committee and consult with the external advisory group to confirm it's appropriate.

Bye moved, Warford seconded, to approve the submitted proposals, contingent on Dr. Mihelich's approval.

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

Additional Agenda Item

**Update on CHIPS** – Dr. Mihelich and Chancellor Hagerott provided the committee with an update on CHIPS.

- Five state consortiums.
- Montana is the lead – sent proposal to the US Department of Commerce.
- Built an alliance and hoping they will partner with us for a supporting role.
- Nothing approved yet and no timeline is available.

6. **TikTok Waiver Request – The use of a virtual desktop provisioned in Microsoft Azure for NDUS institutions to use for recruitment purposes**

Vice Chancellor King informed the committee that the Board accepted a motion that included an option for campuses to ask for a waiver with a technical solution to continue the use of Tik Tok on campus for recruitment purposes. The Board approved and since then there have been campuses that are requesting a waiver. He confirmed that currently Tik Tok is not running on NDUS owned equipment, nor is it running on NDUS networks.

Bye moved, Hanson seconded, to grant the waiver to campuses requesting the use of Tik Tok on a virtual desktop provisioned in Microsoft Azure for NDUS institutions to use for recruitment purposes.

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

**7. SBHE Policy 305.1, Institution President Authority and Responsibilities; Contract Terms**

Vice Chancellor Rostad proposed Policy 305.1. The members had no concerns.

Warford moved, Ryan seconded, to recommend approval of Policy 305.1, as presented.

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

**8. SBHE Policies 604.1 and 604.2**

Vice Chancellor Rostad proposed Policies 604.1 and 604.2.

- a. SBHE Policy 604.1, Performance Evaluations Presidents
- b. SBHE Policy 604.2, Performance Evaluations Chancellor

Ryan moved, Hanson seconded, to recommend approval of Policies 604.1 and 604.2, as presented.

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

**8. SBHE Post-Tenure Ad Hoc Committee Update**

Co-chair Ryan / Vice Chancellor Johnson provided an update on the SBHE Post-Tenure Ad Hoc Committee.

**9. Update/Next Steps on SBHE Board Priorities**

Co-chair Bye requested the committee re-visit the two items that were identified through the most recent SBHE self-assessment process and survey. The Board approved communication and policy as the two areas the Board would focus on for potential improvements. After discussion on the communication component, the committee members agreed that the Board Chair and/or Committee Chair will be notified if a member is going to request amendments to an agenda. The chair has the discretion on how he/she will proceed forward and/or ask for a motion, second, and roll call to determine how to proceed. The committee, system office, and CTS discussed options or additional resources to improve communications, specifically as it relates to information or discussion that occurs at SBHE committee meetings in which individual Board members are not participants. The system office staff and CTS will work together and provide Board members with options for their consideration. Policy is the second component, after discussion, the committee agreed that the work and progress the Board is doing for the upcoming Envision 2035 event does have a role in the NDUS strategic plan, policies, and other responsibilities of the SBHE.

Co-Chair Bye recommended that the committee continue to discuss progress in communication and policy; the committee agreed to a quarterly review/progress update, and it will be on the January meeting agenda.

**10. Update on Envision 2035**

Chancellor Hagerott and Vice Chancellor Hagerott provided an update on Envision 2035.

**10. RGC Annual Calendar**

Mr. Chris Pieske reviewed the proposed annual RGC calendar that names recurring items that the committee discusses and/or acts on. Co-chair Bye asked that Vice Chancellor King add any items from the CTS department.

Co-chair Bye adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m. CT.

Approved November 18, 2023.