

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Academic and Student Affairs Committee met on January 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. CT.

SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee members

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|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. John Warford, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Curtis Biller |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kevin Black | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, faculty advisor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. Sadie Hanson | |

Institution Presidents/Representatives

BSC President Jensen, Dr. Daniel Leingang, Dr. John Carroll, Rebecca Collins, **DCB** Dean Carmen Simone, Mr. Corey Gorder, Ms. Kayla O'Toole, **DSU** President Easton, Dr. Holly Gruhlke, Dr. Dong Huijian, Ms. Kayla Noah **LRSC** President Darling, Mr. Daniel Driessen, **MaSU** President Van Horn, Dr. Brian Huschle, Mr. Corday Goddard, **MiSU** Dr. Laurie Geller, Mr. Kevin Harmon, **NDSCS** President Flanigan, Dr. Lisa Karch, **NDSU** Dr. David Bertolini, Ms. Karin Hegstad, **UND** Dr. Eric Link, Dr. Jeffrey Holm, Dr. Art Malloy, **VCSU** Mr. Larry Brooks, Ms. Erin Klingenberg, **WSC** President Hirning, Dr. Zahi Atallah

System Office/CTS/Guests

NDUS Chancellor Hagerott, VC. Lisa Johnson, VC. Darin King, VC. Jerry Rostad, Ms. Dina Cashman, Ms. Katie Fitzsimmons, Ms. Claire Gunwall, Mr. Mark Gorenflo, Mr. Eric Jensen, Ms. Bethany Kadrmas, Ms. Caitlin Magilke, Mr. Chris Pieske, Dr. Billie Jo Lorius, Ms. Sharon Schwartzbauer, Ms. Mindy Sturn, Dr. Jennifer Weber, Ms. Jamie Wilke, **AG** Ms. Meredith Larson

Call to Order

Chair Warford called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. CT.

1. # Agenda
And,
2. # Meeting Minutes
 - a. Member Biller moved, Member Black seconded, to approve the agenda and [November 15, 2023](#), meeting minutes, as presented.
Black, Biller, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.

Committee Business

3. #State Authorization – [Rasmussen University](#) – VC. Lisa Johnson
4. #State Authorization – [University of Maryland Global Campus](#) – VC. Lisa Johnson
 - a. VC. Lisa Johnson shared that the State Authorization for Rasmussen University was tabled from the previous meeting to determine if the Board has the authority to deny a request from an institution to operate in the state based on North Dakota Century Code (N.D.C.C). VC. Johnson shared that Assistant Attorney General Meredith Larson determined that the Board has the legal authority to determine

- if an institution is exempt from providing information about their accreditation status. It was found that Rasmussen is not exempt because they are not a state agency nor are they part of a university system in North Dakota or other states Rasmussen University is a private university headquartered in Minneapolis, MN with a physical location and office in Fargo.
- b. VC. Johnson shared that because the University of Maryland Global Campus is affiliated with the state of Maryland, they are exempt. The University of Maryland Global Campus requests to operate on the Minot AFB as a preferred educational provider for the United States Air Force.
 - c. Member Biller asked VC. Johnson if there is latitude for the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) to specify or limit programs on offer. VC. Johnson shared that N.D.C.C. states that the Board can draft policies around state authorization; however, further legal review would be required.
 - d. Member Black encouraged the System Office, Minot State University, and other campuses to explore ways in which they could be a preferred partner with the Air Force Bases in North Dakota.
 - e. Member Black moved, Member Hanson seconded, to approve items #3 Rasmussen University state authorization and #4 University of Maryland Global Campus state authorization.
Black, Biller, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.
5. #New Academic Program Requests
- a. [Bismarck State College](#)
 - i. [UG Certificate in Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning Specialist](#)
 - ii. [UG Certificate in Foundations in Emerging Technologies](#)
 - 1. Dr. Daniel Leingang explained how the proposed UG certificates are stackable into the A.A.S. in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.
 - 2. Member Black asked Dr. Leingang what industries BSC anticipates will have the most interest in students who receive these certificates. Dr. Leingang shared there is a wide range including the traditional industry sector, such as Palo Alto Networks, as well as the energy industry.
 - 3. Member Biller moved, Member Black seconded, to approve BSC's new academic program requests as presented.
Black, Biller, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.
 - b. [Mayville State University](#)
 - i. [Minor, Major, and B.S. in Criminal Justice](#)
 - 1. Dr. Brian Huschle shared that Criminal Justice is one of the top 15 demanded baccalaureate programs and it builds on the strengths of MaSU's social and behavioral sciences, as well as political science. MaSU will partner with both LRSC's Peace Officer program and MiSU's Criminal Justice program.
 - 2. Member Black asked if this degree duplicates other programs in the state. Dr. Huschle shared that he did reach out to UND and NDSU. Neither viewed this program as duplicative since these degrees would be reaching a different student demographic and underserved rural communities.
 - 3. Member Hanson asked if there is a community demand for the Criminal Justice program. Dr. Huschle shared that there is a steady

demand and a projected growth of 8-9% in criminal justice jobs. Dr. Huschle shared that in rural communities they have trouble recruiting and these programs would help meet the demand in those communities.

4. Member Hanson moved, Member Biller seconded, to approve MaSU's new academic program request as presented. Black, Biller, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.

c. [North Dakota State College of Science](#)

- i. [UG Certificate in Agriculture Applicator and Operations](#)
- ii. [UG Certificate in Automotive Electrical and Drivability](#)
- iii. [UG Certificate in Automotive Engines](#)
- iv. [UG Certificate in Automotive Powertrains](#)
- v. [UG Certificate in Automotive Steering, Suspension and Alignment](#)
- vi. [UG Certificate and A.A.S. in Baking and Pastry Arts](#)
- vii. [UG Certificate in Catering and Banqueting](#)
- viii. [UG Certificate in Craft Brewing](#)
- ix. [UG Certificate in Culinary and Food Truck Entrepreneur](#)
- x. [UG Certificate and A.A.S. in Culinary Management](#)
- xi. [UG Certificate in Diesel Electrical](#)
- xii. [UG Certificate in Diesel Engines](#)
- xiii. [UG Certificate in Diesel Hydraulics](#)
- xiv. [UG Certificate in Diesel Powertrains](#)
- xv. [UG Certificate in Intermediate Precision Machining Technology](#)
- xvi. [UG Certificate in Introduction to Precision Machining Technology](#)
- xvii. [UG Certificate in Wine Studies](#)
- xviii. [A.A.S. in Ag Business](#)
- xix. [A.A.S. in Agriculture Education](#)
- xx. [A.A.S. in Animal Science](#)
- xxi. [A.A.S. in Beverage Management](#)

1. UG Certificates

- a. Dr. Lisa Karch shared the request for the UG Certificate in Agriculture Applicator and Operations comes directly from conversations with industry partners resulting from the lack of knowledge and skill sets within that area.
- b. Dr. Karch shared the UG Certificates in Automotive Electrical and Drivability, Automotive Engines, Automotive Powertrains and Automotive Steering, Suspension and Alignment all contain existing courses. Dr. Karch shared that industry partners would like an opportunity to upskill current employees and NDSCS has found that some students will begin a semester but may have to leave and they have nothing in hand. These proposed stackable certificates could resolve these concerns.
- c. Dr. Karch shared NDSCS's Culinary Arts program is a two-year cohort that only begins in the fall. Dr. Karch shared that faculty packaged the program into stackable certificates. Dr. Karch stated this provides an opportunity for both traditional and non-traditional students to receive certificates in different areas that interest them. The UG certificates in Wine Studies, Craft Brewing, and Culinary and

Food Truck Entrepreneur have a large market in the Fargo-Moorhead area per conversations with business and industry partners, as well as advisory boards.

- d. Dr. Karch shared the UG Certificates in Diesel Electrical, Diesel Engines, Diesel Hydraulics, Diesel Powertrains, Intermediate Precision Machining Technology, and Introduction to Precision Machining Technology are all part of existing curriculum that will be packaged into stackable certificates.
2. Member Biller moved, Member Black seconded, to approve NDSCS's new academic program requests for all UG certificates as presented.
Biller, Black, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion carries 4-0.
 3. A.A.S. Degrees
 - a. Dr. Karch shared the A.A.S. in Ag Business and Animal Science have been subplans underneath the A.A.S. in Agriculture. Dr. Karch shared the A.A.S. in Agriculture Education helps address a shortage of Ag Ed teachers in North Dakota and Minnesota. Teachers must have a 4-year degree in North Dakota, though A.A.S. graduates could teach under a provisional license while they complete their 4-year degree. The NDSCS A.A.S. in Ag Ed would track directly into the NDSU Ag Ed bachelor's degree. Minnesota teachers only need a 2-year degree.
 - b. Dr. Karch shared the A.A.S. in Beverage Management is built from the proposed UG certificates.
 4. Member Biller moved, Member Black seconded, to approve NDSCS's new academic program requests for all A.A.S. degrees as presented.
Biller, Black, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion carries 4-0.
- d. [University of North Dakota](#)
 - i. [Minor in Human Resource Management](#)
 - ii. [Minor in Journalism](#)
 - iii. [UG Certificate in Native Health and Humanities](#)
 - iv. [UG Certificate in Public History](#)
 - v. [B.A. in Journalism](#)
 - vi. [GR Certificate in Qualitative Inquiry Methods](#)
 - vii. [GR Certificate in Tax Compliance and Planning](#)
 - viii. [GR Certificate in Visual Impairment](#)
 1. Dr. Eric Link summarized the rationale behind UND's requests.
 - a. UND currently has a Major in Human Resource Management, and they would like to add a Minor.
 - b. The Minor and B.A. in Journalism were previously offered at UND but were removed years ago. The new programs reflect the changes in modern journalism.
 - c. The UG Certificate in Native Health and Humanities adds to the programming around indigenous studies.
 - d. The UG Certificate in Public History provides students who are interested in public application of historical knowledge the direct tie to workforce opportunities.

- e. The GR Certificate in Qualitative Inquiry Methods is specialized research focused graduate certificate that provides graduate students with 9 hours of concentrated study in qualitative research methodology.
 - f. The GR Certificate in Tax Compliance and Planning provides a 9-hour add-on certificate for undergraduate students who may have a separate degree in accounting but may want to sit for the tax compliance and planning portion of the CPA exam.
 - g. The GR Certificate in Visual Impairment is a 9-hour certificate designed to provide teachers with additional training on how to deliver content in the classroom for students who may be visually impaired.
2. Member Black moved, Member Biller seconded, to approve all of UND's new academic program requests as presented. Biller, Black, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion carries 4-0.
6. # Degree Type Change
- a. [North Dakota State University](#)
 - i. [M.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering](#)
 1. Dr. David Bertolini shared the M.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering is a curation of existing courses to provide a coursework only option for professionals to receive a master's degree.
 2. Member Black moved, Member Biller seconded, to approve NDSU's degree type change request. Biller, Black, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion carries 4-0.

SBHE Policy

7. [Policy 409](#) Degrees Offered
 - a. [BSC Bachelor's Degree Request](#)
 - b. [BSC Analysis of BS Degree Duplication](#)
 - c. [BSC Bachelor's Degree Request with Additional Analysis](#)
 - d. [BSC Response Summary](#)
 - i. Chair Warford shared Policy 409 is on the upcoming Board meeting agenda for second read, with the exclusion of BSC's request to offer full baccalaureate degrees. Chair Warford stated he would like to have further detailed discussion of BSC's request including the analysis that was provided to the ASAC committee. VC. Lisa Johnson shared the analysis has not been reviewed by the Chancellor's Cabinet or the System Office and she would support an additional month to review the materials. Member Black stated that the topic deserves a robust discussion and potentially its own meeting.
 - ii. Member Biller suggested including degree program data at the University of Mary as they are a large competitor for BSC.
 - iii. The committee agreed to discuss this topic at a future meeting.
8. [Policy 504](#) Resident Tuition Law and Guidelines
 1. VC. Lisa Johnson shared Policy 504 is up for regular review with no suggested edits.
9. [Policy 507](#) Student Publications

1. VC. Lisa Johnson shared a proposed title change to Student Media so that it covers more than print documents. There are no corresponding procedures to Policy 507 and all details are listed in the policy.
10. [Policy 510](#) Rights of Students Called to Active Military Service
 1. VC. Lisa Johnson shared Policy 510 is up for regular review with no suggested edits. VC. Johnson shared there are no corresponding procedures to Policy 510 and all details are listed in the policy.
11. [Policy 602.2](#) Report on Faculty Appointments
 1. VC. Lisa Johnson shared that language from a similar procedure was moved into this policy. VC. Johnson shared the most substantial edit is when tenure is reviewed it will be divided into tenured faculty, probationary faculty, and special faculty appointments.
 2. Member Biller motioned, Member Black seconded, to approve Policies 504, 507, 510, and 602.2.
Biller, Black, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion carries 4-0.

Reports/Updates/Discussion

12. [Policy 421](#) Academic Program Requests – Chair Dr. John Warford
 1. Chair Warford shared there have been questions surrounding new academic requests and if they should go to the full Board for approval. Member Black raised the concern of putting academic program requests on the full Board could eliminate the level of discussion needed for each request, which occurs at the committee level. Member Hanson raised the concern that the main responsibility of the ASAC committee is to review and approve new academic program requests. If Board members are concerned with an academic program request, they can attend all committee meetings and provide their feedback or request a review by the full Board.
13. BND Financial Literacy [Resources](#) – Member Sadie Hanson
 - a. Member Hanson shared the Bank of North Dakota (BND) is starting a financial literacy program for students to be financially aware of the decision they are making. Member Hanson shared this initiative is fully funded by the BND but seeking support from NDUS. Williston State College has used some of the modules for a course or two that they currently offer on their campus. VC. Johnson shared notification will be sent to the BND that the SBHE and NDUS support this initiative. The BND's marketing campaign will reference SBHE's and NDUS's support.
14. ASAC Work Groups – Chair Dr. John Warford
 - a. Three-year Degrees
 - b. Accelerated or Combined Master's Degrees
 - c. Some College, No Degree
 - i. Chair Warford shared that he and VC. Lisa Johnson will create a matrix around these work groups that can be presented at a future meeting to explore if there is a desire within the system for similar paths.
 - ii. Member Black asked if there were Board policies that would prevent institutions from pursuing these options. VC. Johnson shared that Board policy currently states that baccalaureate degrees require no less than 120 credit hours. It would require a change in SBHE policy to waive or reduce that requirement. VC. Johnson shared that there are ways to accelerate a course of study without reducing required credit, including use of summer term or use of dual credit courses, or a combination of both. Chair Warford provided feedback that the goal is not to create

water downed programs but to provide accelerated options for driven and goal-oriented students.

- iii. Chair Warford shared that work groups have not been created and he will be looking for volunteers.
- iv. Member Biller shared feedback that partnerships should be formed with K12 to ensure proper counseling of students who may pursue these accelerated degree options.

15. NDUS Institutional Accreditation [Notification](#) – VC. Lisa Johnson

- a. VC. Lisa Johnson shared the required annual notice to the SBHE of institutional accreditation visits. All institutions are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Adjourn

Committee Chair Warford adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m. CT.