North Dakota State Board of Higher Education  
Research and Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Research and Governance Committee met on Wednesday, March 13th at 3:15 pm. CT, via Teams.

SBHE Research and Governance Committee members
☒ Dr. Casey Ryan, Co-Chair
☒ Ms. Sadie Hanson
☐ Ms. Danita Bye, Co-Chair
☒ Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, Faculty Advisor
☒ Dr. John Warford

Institution Presidents/Representatives
DCB Dean Simone, DSU President Easton, LRSC President Darling, NDSU President Cook, Colleen Fitzgerald, Kristen Fellows, Marc Wallman, UND President Armacost, John Mihelich, Scott Snyder, Robert Newman, Ryan Adams, Aaron Bergstrom, VCSU David DeMuth, WSC President Hirning.

System Office/CTS/Guests
NDUS Chancellor Hagerott, David Krebsbach, Jerry Rostad, Darin King, Lisa Johnson, Mark Gorenflo, Corey Quirk.

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

1. Agenda  
   And,

2. Meeting Minutes
   Warford moved, Hanson seconded, to approve the agenda, and February 14, 2024, meeting minutes, as presented.

   Warford, Hanson, and Ryan voted yes. Bye absent. Motion passed 3–0.

Research Discussion/Updates/Reports
3. Research Enterprise Collaborative
   Co-chair Ryan thanked UND and NDSU for their collaboration on multiple research initiatives and stated the committee is committed to addressing the resource needs of the other nine NDUS institutions regarding their research. Vice Presidents of Research, Dr. Fitzgerald and Dr. Snyder, agreed that collaboration amongst all eleven NDUS institutions is crucial for North Dakota to remain competitive in all areas of research, including recruiting faculty and staff.

   The committee discussed the importance of education in computational resources, digitization, cybersecurity, and artificial Intelligence (AI). The committee also discussed the North Dakota Economic Diversification Research Fund, the potential for the ND Legislature to provide greater funding for NDUS undergraduate research programs, the
progress of the five-state consortium working group, and the need to begin working on 
a request to the Legislative Assembly for additional funding for AI.

The committee and NDUS institutions agreed to form a working group to discuss and 
coordinate research collaboration efforts and to prepare draft research funding 
request(s) for the next legislative session.

Dr. Demuth will present information regarding the undergraduate research 
opportunities/programs at a future RGC meeting.

UND and NDSU VPs of Research, Drs. Snyder and Fitzgerald, will continue to review the 
Economic Diversification Research Fund collaboration proposals to determine which 
one(s) will be awarded funding.

Governance Discussion/Updates/Reports

4. Enterprise Service Management Report 
Vice Chancellor King provided an Enterprise Service Management report and 
explained how it utilizes data to assist in determining performance improvements and 
respond to the needs of the system and individual campuses.

Adjourn
Co-chair Ryan adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m. CT.

Approved April 17, 2024.