

**North Dakota State Board of Higher Education
Economic Diversification Research Fund Internal Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

June 7, 2024
1:00-2:00 p.m. CDT
Action Item

The State Board of Higher Education Economic Diversification Research Fund Internal Advisory Committee met via Teams on June 7th, at 1:00 p.m. CDT.

SBHE Economic Diversification Research Fund Internal Advisory Committee Members

- SBHE: Chair Dr. Casey Ryan
- NDUSO: Chancellor Mark Hagerott
- NDSU: Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald
- UND: Dr. Scott Snyder
- PUI Representative: Dr. David DeMuth
- BND: Mr. Kelvin Hullet

System Office/Guests

Mr. Mark Gorenflo, Ms. Caitlin Magilke, Ms. Bethany Kadrmas

Call to Order

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. CDT.

1. **Introductions** were made by the Internal Advisory Committee members.

#Business

2. **Agenda** - The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.
3. **North Dakota State University Year Two Program Proposals**
 - a. Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald shared that NDSU's requests the same programs as year one. A consolidation was made for two of the programs into the Technology Acceleration Program which focuses on generating technology readiness level.
 - b. Chair Ryan asked if there has been good interest in participation from NDSU faculty. Dr. Fitzgerald stated that due to receiving year one funds late, NDSU has some proposals that are now being issued funding award notices. However, there is strong support for the EDRF at NDSU.
 - c. Mr. Kelvin Hullet asked for more information on the Experiential Learning Program. Dr. Fitzgerald shared that NDSU is utilizing those funds in a few different ways, including tech transfer internships. Additionally, NDSU has been looking into company internships modeled after the National Science Foundation Intern Program.
4. **University of North Dakota Year Two Program Proposals**
 - a. Dr. Scott Snyder shared that UND's requests the same programs as year one.

- b. Dr. Snyder shared information on UND's Innovation of New Technology Readiness Program that takes existing bench research and moves it up the technology readiness level to increase commercialization opportunities.
 - c. Dr. Snyder shared information on UND's experiential learning/research program that differs slightly from NDSU. This program provides opportunities for undergraduate students to get involved in research and start thinking about discovery in a different way.
5. **Other NDUS Institutions Year Two Project Proposals**
- a. Mr. Mark Gorenflo presented the year two project requests for the other nine NDUS institutions.
 - b. New applications came in for year two for Dakota College at Bottineau and for Williston State College.
 - c. The following institutions are continuing their year one projects into year two – Bismarck State College, Dickinson State University, Lake Region State College, Mayville State College, Minot State University, and Valley City State University.
 - d. The following institutions have new project proposals – North Dakota State College of Science and Valley City State University.
 - i. Dr. David DeMuth shared that Valley City State University's second request is related to kinesiology and human performance.
 - ii. Chair Ryan asked what kind of feedback the nine institutions have shared regarding the EDRF funds. Mr. Gorenflo stated that institutions are excited and appreciative of their project grants and of their collaboration with UND and NDSU under their joint collaborative research program.
 - iii. Mr. Kelvin Hullet asked what a high-fidelity simulation is for North Dakota State College of Science. Dr. Fitzgerald shared that a high-fidelity simulator is a lifelike mannequin that is used in health science programs to aid in simulation within smart teaching hospitals.
 - iv. Dr. DeMuth asked if the applications have been vetted outside of the internal advisory committee to ensure the dollar amounts are consistent with last year. Mr. Gorenflo stated that for the nine other NDUS institutions he verified that all the dollar amounts fit within the allocated amounts for each of the non-research institutions.

Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald moved that the Internal Advisory Committee approve all year two applications for all 11 NDUS institutions, Mr. Kelvin Hullet seconded the motion. No further questions or comments were made, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourn

Chair Ryan adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m. CDT.