

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2024

The State Board of Higher Education Academic and Student Affairs Committee met on June 12th at 9:30 a.m. CT., via Teams.

SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee members

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. John Warford, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Curtis Biller |
| <input 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, Mr. Dan Leingang, **DCB** Dean Simone, Ms. Kayla O'Toole, Mr. Corey Gorder, **DSU** President Easton, **LRSC** President Darling, **MaSU** Mr. Brian Huschle, Mr. Corday Goddard, **MiSU** President Shirley, Ms. Laurie Geller, **NDSCS** Ms. Lisa Karch, **NDSU** Mr. David Bertolini, Ms. Karin Hegstad, Ms. Laura Oster-Aaland, **UND** Mr. Eric Link, Mr. Art Malloy, **VCSU** Dr. Kerry Gregory, **WSC** Ms. Erin Klingenberg.

System Office/CTS/Guests

NDUS Chancellor Hagerott, VC Lisa Johnson, Mr. Chris Pieske, VC David Krebsbach, VC Jerry Rostad, Mr. Mark Gorenflo, Ms. Katie Fitzsimmons, Ms. Claire Gunwall, **Assistant Attorney General** Ms. Meredith Larson.

1. **Agenda**

And,

2. **Meeting Minutes**

Biller moved, Hanson seconded, to approve the agenda and May 15, 2024, meeting minutes, as presented.

Hanson, Biller, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 3 – 0.

3. **New Academic Program Requests** (conclusion at SBHE ASAC)

- a. [Bismarck State College](#)
 - i. [UG Certificate in Dental Career Exploration](#)
 - ii. [A.A.S. in Dental Assisting](#)
 - iii. [A.A.S. in Dental Hygiene](#)
 - iv. [B.A.S. in Health Administration](#)

Vice Chancellor Johnson provided background information related to the four program requests from BSC. All were reviewed by the Academic Affairs Council, an advisory group comprised of the academic officers from each campus. Each request is additionally discussed at the Chancellor's Cabinet, which consists of the Presidents from each campus. General both groups meet monthly and provide input for the ASAC

Committee to consider. At the Board's request, any opposition to a proposed agenda item, such as, a new program, program termination, or policies, the system office summarizes the concern(s) and includes that information with the documentation submitted to the committee for their review. Any opposition is typically recorded by institution tier level, not necessarily by name of institution.

There was unanimous support for BSC's undergraduate Certificate in Dental Career Exploration and for the B.A.S in Health Administration. The other two requests, A.A.S in Dental Assisting and A.A.S in Dental Hygiene, did not garner unanimous support at the Academic Affairs Council (AAC). There were five institutions that supported the request and seven that were opposed. AAC is only a recommending body, therefore, the request was advanced to the Cabinet level for further discussion. Similarly, the majority of the Cabinet members did not support the two programs in Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene.

Bismarck State College (BSC) President, Dr. Jensen provided additional information regarding the requests for the two new dental programs. This initiative was not sought out by BSC but was a response to a request from the private sector, specifically the dental professions. A BSC team was formed to work with the private sector to develop solutions to meet the dental industry's needs. President Jensen responded to concerns about the high cost of starting up these specific programs and issues regarding existing capacity in current programs in the state. He stated that costs will be supported by partnering with the private sector and the approach/model that has been proposed is different than dental programs at NDSCS and DCB. He further explained that costs/funding will not necessitate a legislative request. BSC intends to fund the two programs with support from private sector partners.

Member Biller raised concerns regarding the financial impact on the state and how it could negatively impact the newly approved dental programs at DCB. The first cohort of students doesn't begin until Fall 2024 and information has been shared with the committee regarding a large number of unqualified applicants for these specific programs and a significant drop-out rate due to the intensity of the programs. Another concern is reaching saturation in the state and an inability to fill the total number of slots available. If that occurs, it wouldn't be a minimal financial impact on the state, as noted several times, that these are high-cost programs and there is no assurance of continued support from the private sector and/or at what level they will financially support the programs. Member Biller expressed he was not in favor of approving BSC's request at this time but would consider revisiting a year or two after DCB has had the opportunity to demonstrate success in their program.

Chair Warford stated that he is in support of BSC's new dental programs and as a dental professional in the Bismarck area, acknowledged how impactful the workforce shortage has been on the dental profession.

Hanson moved, Warford seconded, to approve BSC's new academic request, as presented.

Hanson, Biller, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 3 – 0.

- b. [North Dakota State University](#)
 - i. [Minor in Forensic Science](#)
 - ii. [UG Certificate in Sport Coaching](#)
 - iii. [B.S. in Data Science](#)

Hanson moved, Warford seconded, to approve NDSU's new academic request, as presented.

Hanson, Biller, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 3 – 0.

4. **Institutional Organization Notice** (conclusion at SBHE)

- c. [University of North Dakota](#)
 - i. Process Engineering Research Center
 - ii. Artificial Intelligence Research Center
 - iii. Center for Cyber Security Research
 - iv. Materials and Manufacturing Research Center
 - v. North Dakota Center for Water Research

Biller moved, Hanson seconded, to recommend approval for UND's Institutional Organization change.

Biller, Hanson, and Warford voted yes. Motion passed 3 – 0.

5. **SBHE Policy 469, College Credit in High School and 805.1 Tuition**

VC Lisa Johnson reviewed proposed amendments to SBHE [Policy 469, College Credit in High School and 805.1 Tuition](#). She explained that there have been numerous edits and a lot of deliberation around the topic of dual credit for the last two years. NDUSO Presidents sought greater clarification around policies, procedures, and tuition, along with a clear delineation between dual credit and early entry students. Ms. Johnson informed the committee that NDSU had recently submitted a lengthy proposal and that the other institutions and legal counsel has not had an opportunity to review what NDSU had proposed. She also informed Committee members that any edits as a result of an approved proposal could have financial implications so the BFC Committee would need to review as well.

The committee members agreed that additional time was needed for a more thorough review by legal counsel and the other institutions.

Biller moved, Hanson seconded, to table Policy 469, College Credit in High School and 805.1 Tuition, until further notice.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. CT.

Approved September 11, 2024.