

**North Dakota State Board of Higher Education  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Agenda and Materials**

The State Board of Higher Education Academic and Student Affairs Committee met on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. CT., via Teams.

SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee members

- |                                                              |                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Curtis Biller, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Max Eriksrud                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kevin Black          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, Faculty Advisor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. DJ Campbell          |                                                                           |

Institution Presidents/Representatives

**BSC** Ms. Dr. John Carroll, **DCB** Dean Simone, Ms. Kayla O'Toole, **DSU** Dr. Holly Gruhlke, **LRSC** President Darling, Mr. Lloyd Halvorson, **MaSU** Dr. Brian Huschle, **MiSU** President Shirley, **NDSCS** President Flanigan, Dr. Lisa Karch, **NDSU** President Cook, Dr. David Bertolini, Ms. Stacy Duffield, **UND** Dr. Art Malloy, **VCSU** Mr. Larry Brooks, Mr. Mark Nelson, **WSC** President Hirning, Dr. Zahi Atallah.

System Office/CTS/Guests

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

Committee Chair Biller called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. CT.

1. Agenda

Member Black requested a discussion regarding the process for tenure policies to be reviewed by the SBHE, more specifically which SBHE Committee does the subject matter of tenure best resides with. Committee Chair Biller added the discussion following item twelve.

2. Meeting Minutes

Black moved, Eriksrud seconded, to approve the amended agenda and the October 9, 2024, 2024, meeting minutes, as presented.

Campbell, Black, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

3. Online State Authorization

- a. [Walden University](#)

The committee members reviewed and discussed the additional information that was requested at the September meeting for Walden University. After Walden

representatives provided an update, the committee discussed the option of a provisional status for state authorization.

Black moved, Campbell seconded, to recommend approval of provisional status for state authorization to Walden University, contingent on quarterly reports to the NDUS Office regarding any changes to state authorization in other states or territories, quarterly reports to the NDUS Office on North Dakota student enrollment numbers, and submit updated documentation of Walden University and Adtalem Global Education's federal financial responsibility score documentation when available to the NDUS Office.

Eriksrud, Campbell, Black, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

4. Physical Presence State Authorization
  - a. [Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University](#)
  - b. [Rasmussen University](#)

Campbell moved, Eriksrud seconded, to recommend approval for state authorization to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and further recommend a one-year provisional authorization to Rasmussen University, requesting an update to any federal financial responsibility score changes be reported to the NDUS Office.

Eriksrud, Campbell, Black, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

5. NDSU Tenure Recommendation

VC Johnson provided an overview of the [exceptional circumstance tenure](#) request by North Dakota State University. Dr. Bertolini provided more details regarding the criteria and qualifications of tenure candidate, Dr. Hollie Mackey, Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Education.

Black moved, Campbell seconded, to recommend approval of tenure for Dr. Hollie Mackey.

Black, Eriksrud, Campbell, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

6. TrainND Business Plan Fiscal Years 2025 & 2026

Ms. Nicole Wischnok presented the [Train ND business plan for fiscal years 2025-2026](#), highlighting the funding overview, generated revenue, and budget projections. The plan includes a request for additional funds for a pilot sales program to expand training services.

The committee discussed the desire and need to expand the TrainND program(s) to serve the Minot and Dickinson areas. NDSCS President Flanigan indicated there have been and will continue to be meetings amongst the Presidents and directors to discuss the expansion strategies; DCB Dean Simone will be a part of discussions going forward.

Black moved, Campbell seconded, to recommend approval of TrainND Business [Plan Fiscal Years 2025 & 2026](#)

Campbell, Black, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

7. Follow-up Items from Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> Special ASAC Meeting  
NDSU, NDSCSC, and VCSU are currently working together on a dual credit proposal that the Committee will review at a future meeting.
8. New Academic Program Requests (conclusion at SBHE ASAC)
  - a. [Bismarck State College](#)
    - i. [UG Certificate in Applied Arts](#)
    - ii. [UG Certificate in Applied Communication](#)
    - iii. [UG Certificate in Arts Business](#)
    - iv. [A.A.S. in Arts Entrepreneurship and Management](#)
    - v. [B.A.S. in Intelligent Machine Learning](#)

Black moved, Campbell seconded, to approve BSC's new Certificate, A.A.S, and B.A.S. Program requests, as presented.

Eriksrud, Black, Campbell, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

- b. [Dickinson State University](#)
  - i. [GR Certificate in Corporate Innovation and Strategy](#)

Eriksrud moved, Campbell seconded, to approve DSU's new Certificate request, as presented.

Black, Campbell, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

- c. [North Dakota State College of Science](#)
  - i. [UG Certificate in Cybersecurity Incident Response](#)
  - ii. [UG Certificate in Cybersecurity Penetration Testing](#)
  - iii. [UG Certificate in Cybersecurity Specialist](#)
  - iv. [UG Certificate in Finance](#)
  - v. [UG Certificate in Home Energy Auditor](#)
  - vi. [UG Certificate in Lactation Consultant](#)
  - vii. [UG Certificate in Management](#)
  - viii. [UG Certificate in Marine Technology](#)
  - ix. [UG Certificate in Motorcycle/ATV Technology](#)
  - x. [UG Certificate in Outdoor Power Equipment and Snowmobile Technology](#)
  - xi. [UG Certificate in Sales and Marketing](#)

Campbell moved, Black seconded, to approve DSU's new Certificate requests, as presented.

Black, Campbell, Eriksrud, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

9. Policy 350.2 Work Force Training Boards  
And,
10. Policy 406 Academic Calendars

Eriksrud moved, Campbell seconded, to recommend approval of Policies [350.2](#) and [406](#), as presented.

Black, Eriksrud, Campbell, and Biller voted yes. Motion passes 4 – 0.

#### 11. Discussion on Online State Authorization

Ms. Claire Gunwall, Ms. Meredith Larson, and Mr. Chris Pieske reviewed the current state statute for state authorization, more specifically criteria, and requirements. They explained the existing state statute is outdated and does not align with changes in online learning and distance education. They provided options for improving the online state authorization guidelines, processes, and procedures and requested some direction from the committee on how they would like the system to proceed. The committee discussed the various components of state authorizations for institutions operating in North Dakota. The committee requested the system office to provide a proposal of options for the Board to review and provide better direction for online out-of-state institutions to ensure that students receive quality educational experiences and are protected from fraudulent or unethical practices.

#### 12. TrainND 2024 Annual Report

The committee reviewed the [TrainND 2024 Annual Report](#).

#### Added Discussion Item regarding Tenure Policies:

Member Black stated that there were several suggested edits to the tenure policies, including the ones he made; it would be beneficial for the Board to know where each of the proposed edits percolated from. He also stated that the Board had agreed that the Research and Governance Committee (RGC) would work with all the appropriate stakeholders to gather as much information/input as possible to report to the Board. The next step would be to have the appropriate Board committee review the policies and make recommendations to the full Board for consideration. As of now, the tenure policy review is with the RGC committee, but Board Policy identifies tenure is in the scope and responsibility of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASAC). Dr. Lisa Montplaisir stated that she served on the tenure review committee and agreed with member Black. RGC was the appropriate committee to work through the multiple layers of governance to gather and collect information, but the ASAC Committee should be reviewing and/or recommending changes to the tenure policies.

After discussion, Committee Chair Biller stated he would work with Board Chair Mihalick to resolve and report back to the committee members.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. CT.

Approved January 23, 2025.