

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

February 5, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education met on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. via Teams.

Chair Mihalick called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. CT.

Roll Call

SBHE Members

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tim Mihalick, Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Danita Bye, Vice Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kevin Black | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Casey Ryan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Jeffry Volk | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Curtis Biller |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Max Eriksrud | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. DJ Campbell |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Michael Linnell, Staff Advisor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, Faculty Advisor |

Institutions

BSC, Interim President Sanford, **DCB** Dean Simone, **LRSC** President Darling, Mr. Lloyd Halvorson, **MaSU** President Van Horn, **MiSU** President Shirley, Dr. Laurie Geller, **NDSU** President Cook, Mr. Jace Beehler, **UND** President Armacost, **Dr.** Eric Link, **VCSU** President LaFave, **WSC** President Hirning.

System Office/Guests

NDUS Chancellor Hagerott, VC Lisa Johnson, VC David Krebsbach, VC Jerry Rostad, Dr. Jen Weber, Mr. Mark Gorenflo, Ms. Claire Gunwall, Mr. Chris Pieske, Ms. Jamie Wilke, Ms. Tammy Dolan, Ms. Katie Fitzsimmons, Ms. Bethany Kadrmaz, Ms. Caitlin Magilke, Mr. Eric Jensen, Dr. Billie Jo Lorus, **CTS** VC Tom Danford, **Others** Assistant Attorney General Rachel Sinness.

Call to Order

1. Agenda

The meeting proceeded according to the established agenda.

2. SBHE Position on [HB 1437](#)

VC Johnson shared HB 1437 which focuses on the tenure and post-tenure review process for faculty. She also shared proposed amendments to the bill, proposed by Representative Motschenbacher.

Member Ryan expressed concerns about the current version of the bill, particularly the change from a five-year to a three-year post-tenure review and the removal of faculty from the review process.

Dr. Montplaisir provided detailed feedback on the proposed amendments, highlighting issues with the language and the importance of faculty involvement in the review process.

Member Black emphasized the importance of supporting the bill with amendments to avoid a complete ban on tenure at 2-year institutions. Chair Mihalick agreed with Member Black's analysis.

President Armacost, President Hirning, and President Darling echoed concerns about the removal of faculty from the review process and the need for further amendments.

Mr. Pieske stressed the importance of precise language in the bill to ensure proper implementation and avoid unintended consequences.

The meeting concluded with a plan for VC Johnson to discuss the changes proposed by Dr. Montplaisir with HB 1437 bill sponsor, Representative Motschenbacher, before the hearing on Friday. Hopefully, this would preclude the necessity for another Special SBHE Meeting before the Friday hearing.

No board action was taken.

3. Discussion of SBHE Legislative Priorities and Positions

Board members reviewed the SBHE stance on HB 1437 only.

4. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m. CT.

Approved February 27, 2025.