

### **North Dakota State Board of Higher Education**

March 14, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education met on Friday, March 14, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. via Teams.

Chair Mihalick called the meeting to order at 2:00 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. Jeffrey Volk                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Curtis Biller                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Max Eriksrud                   | <input 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** Ms. Krista Lambrecht, **NDSCS** President Flanigan, **NDSU** Mr. Jace Beehler, **UND** President Armacost, Dr. Eric Link, Mr. Peter Johnson, Mr. Rob Carolin, **VCSU** President LaFave, **WSC** President Hirning, Ms. Deborah Halvorson.

#### System Office/Guests

**NDUS** Chancellor Hagerott, VC Lisa Johnson, VC David Krebsbach, VC Jerry Rostad, Mr. Mark Gorenflo, Dr. Jen Weber, Ms. Tammy Dolan, Ms. Jane Grinde, Mr. Chris Pieske, Ms. Bethany Kadrmaz, Ms. Caitlin Magilke, Dr. Billie Jo Lorus, Ms. Jamie Wilke, Ms. Maryann Olson, **CTS** VC Tom Danford, Mr. Corey Quirk, **Others** Mr. Thomas Claeys.

#### **Call to Order**

##### 1. Recap of Week's Activity

Ms. Dolan reported the campus presentations to the House Appropriations Committee Education and Environment Division Hearing went well, with positive feedback from all campuses. The committee is expected to start working on SB 2003 soon.

The group discussed the revenue forecast provided to the legislature this week discussing the slight decrease in the forecast and the impact of stripper wells on tax revenue. Member Black provided additional context on the minimal impact of stripper wells on the overall budget.

##### 2. Preview of Next Week's Legislative Hearings

Ms. Dolan highlighted the bills the NDUS is tracking which are scheduled for hearing next week.

HB 1161 – Scheduled for Monday. The bill concerns the vacant FTE funding pool. Campus presidents encouraged testify in opposition, as the bill in its current state would necessitate additional reporting requirements.

HB 1542 - Scheduled for Wednesday. Aims to make student admission applications confidential records. VC Johnson will testify in a neutral position, with some amendments suggested by the Attorney General's office.

HB 1437 - This bill, relating to academic tenure at institutions of higher education, will be worked on in the Senate Education Committee on Wednesday. VC Johnson is collaborating with the bill sponsor to refine the post-tenure review committee language, specifically regarding faculty representation, which the bill sponsor has as between one-third and one-half of the committee. Additionally, a provision requiring presidents to sign annual compliance affidavits has been added, although the bill sponsor has indicated this will be removed.

HB 1220 - Scheduled for Friday. This bill involves developing accelerated degrees for high-demand occupations and proposes removing general education requirements. VC Johnson will testify in opposition, emphasizing the importance of general education requirements as supported by industry feedback.

### 3. Discussion of SBHE Legislative Priorities and Positions

Board members reviewed the SBHE stance on the specific bills that NDUS is tracking.

Chancellor Hagerott highlighted the importance of AI bills and the potential for North Dakota to become a hub for data centers and energy production.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m. CT.

Approved March 27, 2025.