Members of the interim legislative Higher Education Committee and the State Board of Higher Education met to discuss key higher education policy areas during a Dec. 4, 2007, interim committee meeting.

Rep. Ken Svedjan, committee chair, encouraged meeting participants to consider higher education policy in the context of where the state currently is, where the state would like to be, how the state will achieve its goals and who is responsible for accomplishing those goals.

“I am especially encouraged that the committee has identified many of the same key policy areas as those identified in the board’s annual objectives,” said John Q. Paulsen, SBHE president. “Addressing these issues will have a profound impact on the future of our state.

“As we learned from the Roundtable on Higher Education, the economic and social vitality of North Dakota is closely linked to the North Dakota University System,” he said. “Together, both will grow and prosper.”

Paulsen also said he appreciated and welcomed the opportunity to meet with the interim committee to discuss issues of such critical importance, both to the Legislature and the State Board of Higher Education.

Much of the meeting discussion focused on documents prepared for the interim committee and those provided by the North Dakota University System, documents that demonstrated the parallel interests of both groups. Among the key policy areas discussed were:

- Student preparation
- Student retention and completion
- Affordability
- Accessibility

Bill Goetz, NDUS chancellor, emphasized the importance of continuation of the Roundtable on Higher Education process because of its success in creating a clear vision and mission for the University System. He said the tenets of the roundtable are woven into virtually all operations of the NDUS and SBHE, including its strategic plan and annual objectives.

Svedjan said private sector roundtable members will be invited to participate in future committee meetings.

**Sharing the Faculty Perspective**

Members of the Council of College Faculties met with the State Board of Higher Education at its Nov. 15, 2007, meeting at Lake Region State College. Discussion topics included faculty compensation, the annual NDUS Arts and Humanities Summit to be held in October 2008 at Bismarck State College, faculty professional development in the form of tuition waivers, retirement benefits, the NDUS faculty compensation report and faculty member representation on presidential search committees. SBHE and CCF members pictured are Nate Martindale, SBHE; Jon Jackson, UND; Patty Heisler, MaSU; Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, NDSU; Fernando Quijano, DSU; Neil Mueller, NDSU; Ann Smith, NDSCS; Shirley Wilson, BSC; and Tom Barnhart, NDSU, faculty advisor to the SBHE.

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The University of North Dakota’s response to a performance audit of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences was approved by the State Board of Higher Education at a Dec. 3, 2007, special meeting of the board.

Directed by the 2007 Legislative Assembly, the audit was heard Nov. 19, 2007, by the interim legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee. Gordy Smith, performance audit manager in the Office of the State Auditor, told the interim committee the goal of the performance audit was to determine if the medical school has established an adequate system for monitoring operations. The audit report contains a number of recommendations for improvement.

At the Dec. 3 SBHE meeting, Dr. Charles Kupchella, UND president, and Dr. David Wilson, medical school dean, responded to key findings of the audit presented by Smith and Jason Wahl, senior auditor in the Office of the State Auditor. Among other findings, the audit report encouraged more oversight by the Medical Center Advisory Council, a change Wilson said has already begun.

President Paulsen asked SBHE member Grant Shaft, who is also a member of the Medical Center Advisory Council, to provide updates to the board twice per year.

McCallum Named DSU President

The State Board of Higher Education selected Richard J. McCallum, Ph.D., to be the next president of Dickinson State University in Dickinson, N.D., at a special board meeting Dec. 5, 2007. McCallum is vice president for academic affairs at Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, Mo. He received a doctorate in education in 1982 and a master’s degree in education in 1976, both from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and a bachelor’s degree in education from Wayne State College, Wayne, Neb., in 1971.

McCallum will begin his term as DSU president April 5, 2008, and will be paid an annual salary of $165,000 under the terms of a two-year contract. He will replace Dr. Lee Vickers who announced his plans to retire in April 2007.

Providing The Student Viewpoint

Ms. Haylee Cripe, North Dakota Student Association president, provided an update on NDSA activities to the State Board of Higher Education at the Nov. 15, 2007, board meeting at Lake Region State College. Cripe discussed upcoming NDSA meetings and said the group is looking at goals and strategies for the upcoming year.
Bill Goetz, NDUS chancellor, will meet individually with Standing Rock and Spirit Lake tribal chairs to discuss the University of North Dakota’s Fighting Sioux logo and nickname before providing a report to the State Board of Higher Education at its Feb. 21, 2008, meeting.

The board approved Goetz’s next step toward resolution of the Fighting Sioux debate at its Dec. 20, 2007, meeting. Tribal approval would be needed if UND is to retain the logo and nickname, according to the terms of settlement in a lawsuit between the NCAA and UND. Goetz emphasized the importance of face-to-face discussions, rather than accepting statements made in the form of resolutions and those reported by the media.

The board motion also directed Goetz to meet with other high-level government officials individually to engage in similar discussions, including Gov. Hoeven, members of the North Dakota Congressional delegation and UND officials.

John Q. Paulsen, SBHE president, emphasized the importance of the board’s deliberate and careful consideration of this issue because of the passionate commitment of people on both sides of the debate. Paulsen also said it is extremely important to regain focus on the outstanding programs and services provided by the University of North Dakota to the people of our state, including programs and services developed specifically for American Indians.

Updates on presidential searches underway at the University of North Dakota, Lake Region State College and Valley City State University were provided to the State Board of Higher Education at the Nov. 15, 2007, and Dec. 20, 2007, board meetings.

The three vacancies result from the upcoming retirements of UND President Dr. Charles Kupchella, LRSC President Dr. Sharon Etemad and VCSU President Dr. Ellen Chaffee. Summaries of the December presidential search status reports follow.

University of North Dakota

Duaine Espegard, SBHE and UND search committee member, reported the number of candidates had been reduced to five as the result of interviews held Nov. 27 and 28, 2007, in Minneapolis. Espegard said each of the five candidates will meet with key groups and tour the UND campus in January. The search committee will meet Jan. 28, 2008, to select at least three candidates to recommend to the SBHE, and the board will interview the final candidates and select the next president of UND Feb. 4 and 5, 2008.

Lake Region State College

Grant Shaft, SBHE and LRSC search committee member, said the committee selected seven candidates for reference checks at its Dec. 10, 2007, meeting. Shaft said the consultant is conducting reference checks and will present his findings to the committee Jan. 15, 2008, after which the committee will name the candidates to be interviewed. SBHE interviews of the LRSC presidential finalists are scheduled for late February 2008.

Valley City State University

Sue Andrews, SBHE member and VCSU search committee chair, reported the committee has met twice since the last update to the board, and a subcommittee is working on the job description and qualifications. The SBHE approved the VCSU presidential search committee timeline and profile at its Dec. 20, 2007, meeting. Board interviews of the final candidates are scheduled for Feb. 21, 2008.

SBHE Takes First Step in Fighting Sioux Nickname and Logo Resolution

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SBHE Reaffirms Commitment to Substance Abuse Consortium

The State Board of Higher Education reaffirmed its commitment to the work of the North Dakota Higher Education Consortium for Substance Abuse Prevention by adopting a resolution of support at the Nov. 15, 2007, board meeting.

The resolution was approved in conjunction with an annual report presented by Karin Walton, Ph.D., consortium director. The resolution states, in part, that alcohol abuse by students results in death and injury, poor academic performance and retention, property damage and vandalism, and strained town-gown relationships. The resolution encourages NDUS college and university presidents and SBHE members to help reduce high-risk behaviors by being vocal, being visible and being visionary.

Walton’s annual report included a summary of key accomplishments, including:

- Receipt of $492,397 in consortium and campus grant funding for programming and/or research
- Administration of a state-specific alcohol and drug survey
- Addition of student members to the consortium
- Development and/or implementation of a task force on each campus, as well as campus and community coalitions and
- Identification of public policy and legislation that impacts higher education
Consent Agenda Items Approved

Consent agenda items approved at the November and December 2007 State Board of Higher Education meetings include the following:

**Academic Consent Agenda**

**November**
- DSU: A request to offer a major and minor in international business within the B.S. degree
- MiSU-B: A request to offer an A.A.S. in small business management
- MiSU-B: A request to offer a caregiver services A.A.S. and program diploma
- NDSU: A request to establish the NDSU Bio Energy and Product Innovation Center
- NDSU: A request to establish a Center for Global Initiatives and Leadership
- NDSU: A request to establish the NDSU Center for Visual Neuroscience

**December**
- MaSU: A request to terminate minors in mathematics for the elementary teacher and in earth science
- MaSU: A request to offer a fitness and wellness major
- NDSCS: A request to offer a program certificate, diploma and A.A.S. in biotechnology
- NDSU: A request to offer a minor in environmental geology
- NDSU: A request to offer a B.S. in computer engineering
- UND: A request to offer a B.S. in physical education, exercise science and wellness
- UND: A request to establish the UND Center for Human Rights and Genocide Studies

**Financial and Facility Consent Agenda**

**November**
- NDSU: Authorization to proceed with replacement of underground steam and condensate pipelines at an estimated cost of $927,000
- NDSU: Authorization to proceed with installation of a fire suppression system in Seim Hall at an estimated cost of $814,200
- UND: Authorization to proceed with renovation of space in the College of Nursing to accommodate installation of a patient simulator at an estimated cost of $150,000

**December**
- BSC: Authorization to continue renovation of Schafer Hall with an additional $543,000 in improvements to the first floor
- NDSU: Authorization to proceed with the NDSU Main Station Beef Research Facility at an estimate cost of $580,000
- NDSU: Authorization to proceed with the Research Greenhouse Complex at an estimated cost of $14 million
- NDSU: Authorization to proceed with the headquarters additions at the Carrington, Hettinger and North Central Research Extension Centers at an estimated cost of $907,750
- NDSU: Authorization for the NDSU Agriculture Experiment Station and Agronomy Seed Farm to bid on an upcoming public land foreclosure sale for the NE ¼ of Section 4, Township 139, Range 52 in Cass County

**Personnel Consent Agenda**

**November**
- NDSU: Approve a request to award honorary doctoral degrees to John S. Dean, Sheldon Ellig and Harold Newman

**December**
- NDSU: Approve a tenure request

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**Board Policy Manual Revisions Approved**

Policy manual revisions adopted by the State Board of Higher Education at the November and December 2007 board meetings include:

**November**

*Introduction and First Reading*
- 511 Student Criminal History Background Checks
- 602.3 Job Applicant and Employee Criminal History Background Checks
- 803.1 Purchasing Procedures
- HR 6 Annual Leave

*Second Reading and Final Passage*
- 1901.3 Information Technology Project Management

**December**

*Second Reading and Final Passage*
- 511 Student Criminal History Background Checks
- 602.3 Job Applicant and Employee Criminal History Background Checks
- 803.1 Purchasing Procedures
- HR 6 Annual Leave

*Introduction and Final Adoption*
- 440 Enrollment Reporting
- 830.1 Student Payment Policy
In the spirit of the Roundtable on Higher Education, North Dakota University System colleges and universities share the following examples of their contributions to the economic growth, educational excellence and social vitality of North Dakota.

Bismarck State College

A U.S. Department of Energy official noted BSC’s reputation as a leading provider of energy industry education during a Nov. 6 hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. BSC was cited as an example of a successful public-private partnership working to ensure training and education opportunities for the energy industry.

BSC’s Marketing and Communications Department won awards in September for the 2006 “Explore BSC” campaign promotional materials. BSC won a Bronze Medallion Award in the brochure series category of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations District 5 communications contest. The radio ad to promote “Explore BSC” received a North Dakota Broadcasters Association Teddy Award.

Dickinson State University

DSU has added a major and a minor in international business to its academic program mix. The courses are available on the DSU campus and will be incorporated into extended campus programming, including online.

The North Dakota Trade Office received a $129,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration to build on North Dakota’s success in expanding exports of agricultural equipment to Ukraine. DSU will be directly involved in implementing the grant, in part because of the established relationship between the university and the National Agricultural University of Ukraine.

Lake Region State College

Family, friends and colleagues of Dr. Sharon Etemad and alumni and supporters of LRSC gathered Nov. 14 to celebrate Dr. Etemad’s long career. Etemad will retire from the presidency of LRSC in January 2008 after 25 years of service to the college as will her assistant, Helen Nelson, after 23 years of service to LRSC.

Representatives of Oman’s Royal Air Force visited LRSC Nov. 12 through 16 to evaluate the possibility of enrolling air force personnel in the college’s simulator maintenance technician program, which is one of only two such programs offered in the U.S.

Mayville State University

MaSU faculty Jeff Sieg and Laurie Berry were selected to participate in the 2007 North Dakota Space Grant Consortium Summer Fellowship Program. The fellowship was designed to give college faculty an opportunity to develop or revise new or existing academic courses in support of NASA’s science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) objectives. Sieg and Berry’s objective was to enhance space science education and strategies for teaching space science in MaSU’s elementary education program. MaSU students presented their science lessons for May-Port CG elementary school students in late October. On Oct. 24, second and third-grade students visited MaSU to talk with astronaut Mike Fossum from NASA in Houston via the Interactive Video Network.

Minot State University

MiSU hosted three officials from Telemark University College in Skien, Norway, Oct. 9 and 10. The purpose of the visit was to finalize an agreement signed by the institutions in June. The Telemark representatives and MiSU academic officers discussed specific program exchanges. Faculty exchanges to help align curriculum may occur as early as March.

MiSU has made significant progress in its initiative to incorporate into educational applications new research on how the mind/brain works. MiSU’s Center for the Applied Study of Cognition and Learning Sciences was accepted as an NDUS Center of Excellence in September. In support of the initiative, 18 multidisciplinary faculty members have attended national conferences on learning and the brain.

MiSU-Bottineau

MiSU-B received a $270,000 grant from the federal Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration to support operation of a University Center Economic Development Program. The EDA implements its mission by making strategic investments that encourage private sector collaboration and creation of high-skill, high-wage jobs. The MiSU-B grant will promote the specialty and vegetable production industry and is matched by local resources.

North Dakota State College of Science

Dr. Gloria Dohman, associate vice president for strategic effectiveness, was appointed to the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission in August. The Institutional Actions Council includes 20 peer review/consultant evaluators who are recognized for their knowledge, experience and understanding of the accreditation process.

President Richman delivered his first address to the campus Oct. 25 at the President’s State of the College Address and Recognition Day event. Chancellor Goetz was among the guests who attended and spoke at the event.

North Dakota State University

The capital campaign “Momentum: The $75 Million Campaign for North Dakota State University” reached a highly successful conclusion. President
Chapman announced Oct. 4 that the campaign ended with gifts and pledges totaling more than $108 million.

Student teams from NDSU’s computer science department won first and second place in the prestigious eighth annual Digi-Key Collegiate Computing Competition, the first time any university has taken the top two spots. The four-member teams included juniors and seniors in the computer science program.

University of North Dakota

Pamela Bridgewater, U.S. ambassador to Ghana, said she wants to include the UND Conflict Resolution Center in a U.S./Ghana military exchange program, “to look at ways to reinforce what we’re doing with other development partners in cooperation and in conjunction with Ghanaians who are similarly trying to mitigate against conflict.” Bridgewater was in Bismarck in early November to visit with state officials about expanding a military exchange program between the North Dakota National Guard and the West African country.

UND School of Law graduates had a 96 percent pass rate on the Minnesota bar exam on their first try, according to the Minnesota Board of Law Examiners. The School of Law is one of 20 accredited law schools that experienced increases of 10 percent or more in the number of applicants this year.

Valley City State University

VCSU now offers certificate programs in two rapidly growing fields of information technology: customer relationship management (CRM) and enterprise applications. The certificates combine traditional IT subjects with new coursework to give students both technical skills and an understanding of the strategies that drive the business.

VCSU has joined the SAP University Alliances program. The program allows faculty to use SAP software in coursework, giving students hands-on experience with popular application software. SAP, the world’s largest business software company and the world’s third-largest independent software provider, serves more than 41,200 customers worldwide.

Williston State College

Ken Quamme, computer systems specialist, was honored by the Cisco Networking Academy during the academy’s 10th anniversary events in Washington, D.C., Oct. 1. Quamme received a plaque recognizing his efforts to raise awareness of career opportunities in the IT industry. The Cisco Networking Academy provides students valuable skills and knowledge in networking and information technology, leading to advanced academic exploration and career development.

Upcoming SBHE Meetings

• Jan. 17, 2008 Conf. Call
• Feb. 4–5, 2008 UND
• Feb. 21, 2008 MaSU