ND Council of College Faculties
IVN Meeting
December 12, 2006
Minutes

Urgent issues: The next meeting will be held on January 16, 2007—Bring comments on the Heri Report Summary, Check on what your college charges student for awarding prior learning credits, and Tom will check on Flex-Comp Pay. Bring ideas for Higher Education Day at the legislature in February (Jim Wright and Shirley Wilson may have some great ideas for this)

Members present: Tom Barnhart (NDSU), Jon Jackson (UND), Curt Stofferahn (UND), Don Poochigian (UND), LoAnn Nelson (LRSC), John Pederson (MaSU), Milan Christianson (NDSCS), Ann Smith (NDSCS), James Crawford (VCSU), Leslie Bieber (WSC), Gene Bender (MISU-BC)

Guest: Mike Hillman, Robert Larson

Members absent: Harlene Hatterman-Valenti (NDSU), Shirley Wilson (BSC), Jim Wright (BSC), Tom Petros (alternate-UND), Fernando Quijano (DSU) Ernst Pijning (MiSU, Lisa Borden-King (MiSU), Neil Mueller (NDSU)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair, Tom Barnhart

The agenda was left as established

Approval of minutes of November 14, 2006 minutes—Curt Stofferahn made a motion, Don Poochigian seconded and the motion carried

AAC Report: Harlene Hatterman-Valenti was unable to attend and sent her report by e-mail to members.

SBHE Report

John Pederson reported that the last SBHE meeting discussed the governor’s budget at length which suggested 19.3% for higher education rather than 21%. The governor’s budget also requested 96% of the 5% parity for salaries. This may be comparable to the 4% increase in government employees when the increase in health insurance is included.

The CCF board discussed the importance of informing the SBHE member on how the raises are usually calculated on the average with reductions for category changes and status changes. It is felt that a 5% increase should be asked for at a minimum rather than as an average.

Another issues discussed at the SBHE meeting was the criminal background check policy. Several majors and positions were named in areas where it might be necessary to do a national background check. You need approval by law to do the national check rather than the state check. The incident in Valley City indicated a need to the national check in certain areas.
Old Business
Salary Issues: The need for a minimum percentage was mentioned again. It was decided that each institution should send Tom Barnhart a list of their guidelines for promotions so that he can put them into a matrix.

Professional Liability Insurance: Pat Seaworthy is setting up meetings to discuss this issue with the necessary persons.
Technology Commercialization Committee (Don Poochigian): Don Poochigian reported that the main issue for this committee is the question of what needs to be shared with the public when commercializing a product and working with a university. Many companies that work with research institutions want complete confidentiality.

NDUS Legislative Task Force (Don Poochigian): This committee has not met since accomplishing the tri-fold document task.

ND Roundtable: Tom Petros decided not to write his letter to the legislature pointing out the areas in which they did not live up to their promise, because Mike Hillman and the SBHE are supportive of the faculty and have reported support from the private sector in that area also.

Heri Report (Shirley Wilson or Robert Larson): This report that attempts to depict what an average faculty member in each of the three types of NDUS institutions would resemble has been reformatted and is still being worked on. The idea of placing a face to each type is still being looked at. The purpose of the summarized report is to give legislators an idea of what faculty do in the time that they are not teaching. The draft will be sent to members and will possibly be completed shortly after the January meeting

New Business:

Flex-Comp Program Discussion: Tom Barnhart will look into the reasons why the NDUS elected not to take advantage of the opportunity to extend unused flex-comp benefits 2 ½ months into the next year. Other ND state employees are able to do this.

Communication Policy: Mike Hillman is preparing a summary of the communication procedures that are in place in the NDUS—for example, lines of communication between the SBHE and the CCF such as the CCF representative and CCF president discussing issues with the chancellor before SBHE meetings.

Items for the January meeting:
Heri Report
Flex-Comp Pay
Fees charged at schools when students receive credit for prior learning
How faculty will be involved with statewide problem of student substance abuse