ND Council of College Faculties
Conference Call
Special Meeting
May 16, 2006
Minutes

Urgent issues: Send campus representative names to the new president, Tom.Barnhart@ndsu.edu

Members present: Tom Barnhart (NDSU), Ann Burnett (NDSU), Jon Jackson (UND), Chris Keller (MiSU), Lisa Borden-King (MiSU), Doug Munski (UND), LoAnn Nelson (LRSC), John Pederson (MaSU), Harlene Hatterman-Valenti (NDSU), Shirley Wilson (BSC),

Members absent: James Crawford (VCSU), Gene Bender (MISU-BC) or alternate Brad Gangl (MISU-BC), Leslie Kline (WSC), Fernando Quijano (DSU) Milan Christianson (NDSCS), Dennis Miller (NDSCS), Tom Petros (UND), Jim Wright (BSC)

The special conference call meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting was to finalize the CCF support on issues that John Pederson would present to the SBHE at their meeting on Wednesday, May 17th.

Salary issue: The Budget Committee to the SBHE recommended only a 5% compensation increase for Faculty and Staff rather than the 7% originally requested by the CCF.

After considerable discussion, Ann Burnett moved that John Pederson advocate to the SBHE that two million dollars allocated to equity funding be reallocated to increase faculty salary funding to 5.5% for each year of the biennium. Jon Jackson seconded the motion.

Tom Barnhart made a friendly amendment to the motion that faculty funding be increased to 6%. The source for the increase could come from equity and/or whatever other sources as the SBHE would deem appropriate. Ann Burnett and Jon Jackson accepted the amendment to their motion. The motion carried.

The CCF also encouraged John Pederson to present the resolution passed by the CCF at the May 9th meeting to the SBHE supporting Chancellor Potts.

Discussion on rescinding and replacing the UND Logo resolution that was passed at the CCF meeting on May 9th was held. The new resolution would better express the concerns of the CCF that state funding in the logo issue and any other area only be used when associated with an academic mission.
The resolutions passed at the May 9th meeting are printed below:

Council of College Faculties
Proposed Resolution concerning continued use of the current UND logo and nickname
May 9, 2006

Whereas, the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), which accredits the University of North Dakota (UND), issued a 2004 report critical of UND's ongoing use of the current Indianhead Logo and Fighting Sioux nickname connecting use of these symbols with negative impacts on the University's academic mission, and calling on UND to discontinue use of these symbols, and

Whereas, the NCA's call to discontinue use of these Native American symbols by UND is in accord with requests and resolutions made and passed at various times by eight Sioux nations and several other area tribes, and by a number of Native American Organizations and Education Associations and individuals, and by twenty of UND's Indian-related programs, as well as by many other entities, and

Whereas, in 2006 the University Senate of UND has passed a resolution requesting the UND President promptly seek authority from the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education to develop and implement an orderly plan for discontinuing use of current Indianhead Logo and Fighting Sioux nickname, and

Whereas, in 2005 the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), of which the University of North Dakota is a member, has declared the current UND Indianhead Logo and Fighting Sioux nickname to be “hostile” and “abusive” and that these Native American references by UND creates an environment “inconsistent with the NCAA constitution and inconsistent with the NCAA commitment to diversity, respect and sportsmanship”, and

Whereas, the NCAA Executive Committee has instituted penalties for UND that include not being permitted to host any NCAA championships (something UND has done frequently in the past) and permission to participate in NCAA Championships only if UND uniforms and associated athletic program activities are free of Native American references, and

Whereas, UND has exhausted all appeals of the NCAA Executive Committee decision, and

Whereas, UND President Charles Kupchella has recently indicated the University’s intention to challenge the decision of the NCAA in court;

Therefore, be it resolved that, in the current longstanding period of under-funding of North Dakota institutions of higher education, that the Council of College Faculties vigorously opposes the use of any State of North Dakota monies in pursuing any lawsuit brought by or on the behalf of UND against the actions of the NCAA concerning the ongoing use by UND of its current Indianhead Logo and Fighting Sioux nickname.

Furthermore, the Council of College Faculties urges the State Board of Higher Education to grant authority to UND to alter its symbolic representation.
Council of College Faculties Resolution
Approved May 9, 2006

Whereas news media stories the past month have raised considerable speculation concerning the North Dakota University System, the State Board of Higher Education, and its Chancellor, Robert Potts; and

Whereas such speculation, rumors, and innuendo are harmful to the university system and the parties affected; and

Whereas on May 1, 2006, ten of the eleven campus CEO’s of the North Dakota University System asked that “the Board and the Chancellor act proactively and aggressively to secure adequate state funding for the universities and colleges, and the Board work with the Chancellor and the presidents to achieve a unified system as defined in ‘Clarifying Roles and Responsibilities;’” and

Whereas the President of the North Dakota School Boards Association, Arden Eide, wrote on May 2, 2006, that its Board of Directors “is unanimous in our intent to impress on you the belief that our state is best served by a unified system of higher education with the Chancellor serving as CEO. If Chancellor Robert Potts is asked to leave by the Board of Higher Education, that will signal that the State Board no longer supports a unified system;” and

Whereas the faculty of the North Dakota University System are concerned with maintaining a system that functions with quality and integrity for the students it serves; and

Whereas upon assuming his current position, the Chancellor has made repeated efforts to develop and maintain open dialogue with the faculty, including meeting with the Council of College Faculties in October 2004, stating his goals and ideas and seeking faculty feedback; and

Whereas the goals and ideas he mentioned such as increasing the enrollment of international students and increasing faculty salaries across the system are issues he pursued; and

Whereas he has implemented policies to improve communication between the North Dakota University System Office, the State Board of Higher Education and the Council of College Faculties, and provided resources to assist faculty leaders in that regard; and

Whereas the state of North Dakota now has record budget surpluses and the State Board of Higher Education should be doing everything in its power to secure an appropriate share for adequate funding of the North Dakota University System;
Therefore, be it Resolved that the Council of College Faculties supports a unified university system allowing for individual campus flexibility as being in the best interests of the taxpayers, the students, the system faculty and staff; and

Furthermore, from the perspective of the Council of College Faculties terminating the Chancellor’s contract now is not warranted and would be detrimental to the best interests of the North Dakota University System.

Meeting was adjourned
Respectfully submitted,
LoAnn Nelson, CCF Secretary