The economic impact of the North Dakota University System and its students on the state has risen dramatically over the past 12 years and now stands at an estimated $4.4 billion for Fiscal Year 2011, compared to $3.7 billion in FY 2009, according to the recent Economic Impact of the North Dakota University System report.

This is a result of $1.6 billion in student spending and NDUS expenditures, coupled with secondary economic impacts. The system employed more than 11,000 workers, and the expenditures supported more than 11,000 secondary jobs.

“Higher education serves North Dakota as a key economic driver that meets the workforce, research, innovation and intellectual needs of the State and its people,” said Duaine Espegard, president of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education. “Those needs are going to increase as the state’s economy blossoms. This report validates the strategic connection between a strong university system and a strong economy. It’s essential that we make wise investments in higher education so that we can fulfill the needs of those who are creating the state’s future.”

Experts predict that North Dakota’s population will increase 20 percent by the end of the decade. “About 70 percent of the 120,000 anticipated job openings in the state will require postsecondary education,” said NDUS Chancellor Hamid A. Shirvani. “We have developed the Pathways to Student Success Plan, which will build on the strengths of our system to deliver higher-quality education to better-prepared students, thus ensuring higher graduation and retention rates. We also are re-engineering our system structure to provide greater oversight and accountability as well as more effective and efficient services. Investments in the system now will pay great dividends to the state as it grows.”

The authors concluded that the state’s colleges and universities are able to leverage more than $2.30 from external sources for every dollar of state appropriated funds. Much of those non-appropriated funds come from outside sources and could be considered new money to the state.

Key measures of the economic impact of the North Dakota University System in FY 2011 include:

- Direct economic impacts (expenditures) of $1.2 billion, of which $817 million were expenditures from non-general fund sources. Student living expenses were estimated at $392 million and were in addition to $1.2 billion in institution spending.
- Direct expenditures from general and non-general funds created a gross business volume of $3.5 billion, positively impacting North Dakota households, retail trade, construction finance, insurance and real estate businesses.

The FY 2011 report was conducted by North Dakota State University’s Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics and is similar to other studies done in 1999, 2004, 2008 and 2009. Report authors Dean A. Bangsund, Randall C. Coon and Nancy M. Hodur used the North Dakota Input-Output Model to estimate economic impact.

“North Dakota is entering a new era, and it’s imperative that we make good decisions about where we invest the proceeds of our prosperity,” Espegard said. “With some strategic investments in our system, higher education’s economic impact will grow exponentially as will its impact on the workforce of tomorrow and the state’s future.”
Reichert named Executive Secretary

The State Board of Higher Education named Board member Kari Reichert as Executive Secretary at its November meeting. Pat Seaworth, legal counsel for the University System and current Executive Secretary, recently retired. Reichert is an attorney from the Bismarck area.

Pathways to Student Success Plan progresses

At the November Board meeting, Chancellor Hamid A. Shirvani reported on the successful collaborative meetings that have been held with educators across the state to finetune the Pathways to Student Success plan and move it toward the implementation phase. Progress was made in establishing admissions indexes and tuition model changes for specific schools, resident and non-residents, and tuition waivers. The Board approved a grandfathering provision for Minot State University, which allows currently enrolled students and those admitted and enrolled at MiSU through the Fall 2013 semester to continue to pay the resident rate, regardless of state of residence, for a period not to exceed four years. An updated plan may be found on the NDUS website at: http://ndus.edu/system/pathways-to-student-success/
Consent agenda items approved

Consent agenda items approved at recent State Board of Higher Education meetings included the following:

**Financial and Facility Consent Agenda**

**BSC:** Potential development of state land for construction of student housing on the campus by the BSC foundation or a private entity.

**LRSC:** Request to solicit private funds to support the Technical Center Expansion and Renovation initiative.

**MaSU:** Name change of Northwest Hall to Edson and Margaret Larson Alumni and Leadership Center.

**NDSU:** Accept a gift from the NDSU Teammakers of new turf for a football practice field and request to proceed with the construction of a $212,500 modular housing unit at Williston Research Extension Center, paid from a City of Williston Star Fund Grant ($130,000) and from WREC other funds ($82,500).

**UND:** Request to proceed with general renovation work and mechanical upgrades to the existing Upson I building of $500,000 paid from state appropriated funds.

**UND/NDUS:** Increase the authorized amount of the System Information Technology Services (SITS) Facility and Data Center from $15,500,000 to $16,848,523, with the additional amount funded from internal reallocation.

**NDUS:** Approve 2013-2014 Room, Board and Fee Guidelines.

**Academic Consent Agenda**

**DCB:** Program Termination: A.A.S. in Horticulture - Greenhouse Technology

**DSU:** Institutional Organizational Termination: Confucius Institute

**DSU:** Program Terminations: Entrepreneurship Leadership, Forensic Accounting and Manufacturing Technology

**MiSU:** Approval to offer a M.S. in Nutrition to be offered both traditionally and at a distance

**NDSU:** New Program: Minor in Art History

**UND:** Institutional Organizational Change: From: College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines

**Personnel Consent Agenda**

**UND:** Request to grant two honorary doctorates

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**Espegard, Shirvani editorials featured in North Dakota newspapers**

Duaine Espegard, president of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education, wrote an editorial entitled, “Investing in system engine will keep wheels on the bus for students and state,” which ran in North Dakota newspapers during the week of November 4. Espegard said, “What better investment than in the education of the generation who will lead our transformation from the state that has been the country’s best-kept secret to the state that is quickly becoming the envy of the world?

“Now is the right time to make a strategic investment in our university system. With the direction of the Board and under the leadership of Chancellor Shirvani, NDUS has developed a plan to re-engineer the system structure. The re-engineering process will build on its strengths while providing greater oversight and accountability as well as more effective and efficient services.”

For the full editorial, go to: [“Investing in system engine will keep wheels on the bus for students and state.”](#)

North Dakota University System Chancellor Hamid A. Shirvani wrote an editorial entitled, “A constant challenge: educating for change,” which appeared in newspapers in the state during Thanksgiving weekend. Shirvani said, “It means that we must all become lifelong learners and the goal of our schools should be to make each of us a self-motivated learner. For the university, it means that we must move away from trying to fill students with information that becomes quickly outdated and, instead, prepare students for active and continuous involvement in learning. Any student who graduates without good cognitive skills, without having examined the values that guide our lives, and without a willingness to pursue continuous learning will lack the survival skills needed for this new millennium.”

For the full editorial, go to: [‘Educating for change’ is our universities’ challenge](#)
Chancellor, Board Members visiting high schools

Chancellor Hamid A. Shirvani has been visiting North Dakota high schools, encouraging students to study diligently to prepare for the wonderful opportunities that are available for their education and careers in the state. Shirvani has met with students in Carrington, Richardton-Taylor, Washburn and Minot high schools thus far. He told students that state’s population is expected to increase 20 percent by the end of this decade, leading to 120,000 new job openings. About 70 percent of those jobs will require a college education. He said it’s so important that students get a good education so that they can put all of their talents to full use, and that the University System’s job is to help them do that.

“I am going to work together with all of your good teachers here and at the colleges and the Governor and the legislators who support the schools through the taxes your mom and dad pay,” he said. “We are going to work together to make sure our schools and colleges in North Dakota are the best places in the country for you to go to get your education.

“We’ve created a plan called Pathways to Student Success. It is a plan to help you chart a clear path for an education that prepares you for the future.”

Shirvani and SBHE board members plan to reach out to as many students as possible in the coming months.

SBHE Vice President Diederich appointed to Association for Community College Trustees Board

Kirsten Diederich, Ph.D., vice president of the State Board of Higher Education, has been named to the Board of Directors for the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). She was also recently appointed ND ACCT Coordinator for the Western Region.

“I am honored to have been recommended by the leadership of ACCT to join their Board of Directors for 2013,” said Dr. Diederich. “I look forward to working on their Public Policy Committee in Washington, D.C. as well. There are many important issues on the horizon that could impact our colleges, and I am excited about representing North Dakota in these conversations.”

ACCT is a non-profit educational organization of governing boards, representing more than 6,500 elected and appointed trustees who govern more than 1,200 community, technical, and junior colleges in the United States and beyond.

Lake Region Presidential Search

On behalf of the State Board of Higher Education of the North Dakota University System, Chancellor H. A. Shirvani invites nominations and applications for the President of Lake Region State College. AGB Search is assisting with the presidential search at Lake Region. Please visit the search page on the AGB site to view the advertisement and position profile. More information on the presidency and LRSC can be found on the LRSC Presidential Search page.
Dickinson State and University of Mary collaborate to meet growing needs of western North Dakota

Dickinson State University and the University of Mary, a private, Catholic university, are partnering to offer master’s-level degrees in education, business, nursing and counseling in Dickinson starting March 2013. Under the agreement, anyone in western North Dakota looking to further their education in any of these fields can earn their master’s degree from the University of Mary at Dickinson State.

Additionally, DSU and the University of Mary have agreed to explore the possibility of a 4+1 accelerated module. In this module new DSU students would be able to finish their undergraduate degree at DSU in four years and immediately enter into a fifth year with the University of Mary to complete their master’s degree.

The University of Mary will have a presence on the DSU campus and plans to hire new faculty and staff to coordinate and administer the courses.

“We are pleased to be part of this wonderful new public and private partnership that will benefit students throughout the area,” said Hamid A. Shirvani, Chancellor of the North Dakota University System. “Our Pathways to Student Success plan is focused on ensuring that all of our institutions make students’ goals their highest priority. We are particularly interested in serving the adult learner population, giving them more opportunities to complete an education that may have been interrupted by other commitments or to change careers based on the employment opportunities available in North Dakota today. This partnership is a giant step forward in fulfilling that mission. I commend Dr. Coston and Msgr. Shea for their foresight and innovation in creating this program.”

“For almost 100 years DSU has successfully served Western North Dakota by continually adapting to meet the needs of this region’s citizens,” said Dr. Coston, President of Dickinson State University. “As we look to the future, we see an opportunity to expand upon the programs offered by DSU through partnering with others to bring educational opportunities to this area. The alliance being announced today is a major, initial step in that direction.”

As a member of the North Dakota University System, DSU places emphasis on educating a diverse and international population of students through innovative teaching, learning, and scholarship. DSU offers over 60 undergraduate degree programs on its main campus, and through its extended learning programs, DSU offers undergraduate degrees in Bismarck, Williston and online in 4 states. DSU is the home of the Theodore Roosevelt digital presidential library.

“We’re excited about this partnership with DSU for several reasons, but foremost it’s about serving the people in western North Dakota who have a tremendous need for these successful and popular programs.” stated University of Mary President, Monsignor James Shea. “With this region’s growth and prosperity come growing pains and a workforce that becomes underserved. I have seen it first-hand in my service as a priest in Dickinson and the Killdeer area. We’re here to serve just as our founders and sponsors, the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Monastery, did when they helped pioneer this territory in 1878 and continue to do to this day with great success, devotion and humility. It’s a privilege to carry forward their spirit and vision to the people of western North Dakota.”
Celebrating Successes

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

- BSC Surgical Technology students achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the Certified Surgical Technologist exam for the fourth year in a row. The associate degree in nursing program graduates achieved a 100 percent pass rate on its licensure exams for the second year in a row.

- The Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission voted to continue the accreditation of Bismarck State College with the next reaffirmation of accreditation in 2018-19. The notification is the result of seven years of continuous quality improvement activities on campus.

- BSC has been named a Military Friendly School for 2013 by G.I. Jobs magazine. The college was chosen for delivering the best experience for military students to ensure their academic success. BSC received the rating after a survey of 12,000 Veterans Administration-approved schools placed BSC in the top 15 percent of all schools in the country.

Dakota College at Bottineau

- Dakota College has begun a program to assist K-12 students explore STEM education. The project will train DCB students to facilitate and become STEM mentors for the K-12 students in the area’s public schools. A key component of the outreach program will be the STEM kits that the college students will construct and use with their public school peers.

- For the current academic year, DCB enrolled a record number of students in its PN and ADN programs. Thirty eight prospective nurses are enrolled at the three Dakota College delivery sites. The college’s participation in the Dakota Nursing Consortium has helped alleviate the severe nursing shortage in North Central ND.

- For the ninth consecutive year, the Lumberjack hockey team sponsored a “day of caring” for the Bottineau community. Lumberjack athletes helped at local churches and protective services, read to children at local daycares, and did a variety of odd jobs like painting, yard work, and garden harvesting. All the work was volunteered; no donations were accepted.

Dickinson State University

- The Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History has recently verified the identification of a second specimen of Sorex merriami collected by the DSU Natural History Collection. This second specimen has been donated by the DSU NHC to the National Museum of Natural History for installation, preservation and inclusion among the national mammal holdings.

- Jenna Alexander, DSU senior art education major, received a Jurors Award at the North Dakota University System Arts and Humanities Summit earlier this month. Only three Jurors’ Awards are given out in the state of North Dakota.

- Dr. Eric Grabowsky, assistant professor of communication at DSU, moved in the role of president of the Communication, Speech, and Theatre Association of North Dakota (CSTAND). Grabowsky’s term will last until the 2013 annual CSTAND convention.

- Margaret Marcusen, lecturer of communication at DSU, received the 2012 CSTAND Scholar of the Year award. During her time at DSU, Marcusen has received awards for the Outstanding Teacher in the College of Arts and Sciences (2006) and Innovative Teacher of the year (2008).

Lake Region State College

- The U. S. Department of Labor has awarded $2,990,335 to Lake Region State College to develop training programs in precision agriculture. The grant targets workers eligible for training as a result of unfair foreign trade that has caused job loss or threatened job loss. Lake Region State College, through its Dakota Precision Ag Center, a center of excellence, will develop and deliver technical training in precision agriculture technologies.

- The North Dakota Department of Commerce announced a $288,600 workforce enhancement grant for Lake Region State College. The grant will support efforts to develop an educational training program for the agriculture industry. Partner companies are providing matching
Lake Region State College Oct. 8 held a groundbreaking ceremony for its new wind turbine. The 1.6-megawatt turbine will be built three miles north of campus. Planning for the turbine has been in the works since 2003 when the college researched installing the turbine to power the campus and launch a wind energy technician training program.

Mayville State University

The Edson and Margaret Larson Foundation has given a gift of $340,000 that will finish the MSU Foundation project to rehabilitate historic Northwest Hall for use as an alumni center. The announcement was made during homecoming festivities. Pending state approval, Northwest Hall will be named “Edson & Margaret Larson Alumni and Leadership Center.”

MaSU hosted the 2012 A.I.I. (Association of Independent Institutions) volleyball tournament November 9 and 10. Tournament participants were the top six ranked teams in the A.I.I. at the end of the regular season, Cal State San Marcos, Jamestown College, Ashford University, La Sierra University, Mayville State University, and Valley City State University.

MaSU has made significant growth across the entire institution as a result of a recently-completed Dept. of Education Title III Strengthening Institutions Grant. Growth in the areas of academic quality, institutional management, student support services, and fiscal stability has allowed MaSU to increase self-sufficiency and strengthen the capacity to make substantial contributions to higher education.

Minot State University

The Rural Crime and Justice Center at MiSU received a $300,000 Department of Justice grant aimed at reducing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking on campus. Timothy Purdon, United States attorney for North Dakota presented the check to MiSU officials in late October.

LRSC, in collaboration with MiSU’s Department of Criminal Justice and the Ward County Sheriff’s Department, will deliver its Peace Officer Standards Training program on MiSU’s campus spring 2013. Freshman can complete the Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice at MiSU and POST in four years. POST is the minimum certification required by all law enforcement in North Dakota.

In October, Devin McCall became new director of residence life at MiSU. In addition to supervision and development, McCall will collaborate with university departments to improve academic success, retention and graduation rates and facilitate housing opportunities for students. The new position was created as the result of reorganization within Student Affairs.

North Dakota State University

Biomedical researchers at NDSU have received a $4.9 million, five-year research grant from the National Institutes of Health for new strategies for targeting protease in disease. The funding provides continuing support for a nationally competitive biomedical center at NDSU, focused on fighting diseases such as cancer, asthma, hypertension and arthritis.

The Commodity Trading Laboratory opened this fall at Richard H. Barry Hall. The trading facility features the latest and best in technology, where students and researchers can analyze commodity markets and students learn the fast-paced activity of risk management and trading. It students as well as potential clients for trainND southeast. The College now has a total of 29 department videos, which can be viewed on their YouTube channel at youtube.com/ndscswildcats.

NDSCS dental hygiene students demonstrated excellence in their field by earning perfect pass rates on this year’s National Board Exams and Central Region Dental Testing Exams. The entire NDSCS dental hygiene class of 2012, which consisted of 19 graduates, passed the national exams on their first attempt.

NDSCS recently honored a number of employees with the annual LIFE and Steeple awards. The LIFE award stands for “Bringing LIFE to NDSCS” and was presented to the Allied Dental Education faculty and staff. The Steeple award stands for “Climbing New Heights” and was awarded to Jim Johnson, a Twin Cities college recruiter.

North Dakota State College of Science

NDSCS recently premiered four new department videos: Allied Dental Education, NDSCS trainND Southeast, NDSCS-Fargo and Paramedic (EMT) Technology. They will be used extensively to market, build NDSCS brand awareness and recruit new
is the first of its kind to specialize in agricultural commodities and the only such lab at a land grant university.

• The music department formally became the School of Music, joining the very top music units in higher education and signifying its mission encompassing a broad-based curriculum that includes professional doctoral programs in performance and conducting.

University of North Dakota

• The University of North Dakota College of Engineering and Mines received $14 million in funding: a $10 million gift from Harold Hamm and from Continental Resources, Inc. to fund the Harold Hamm School of Geology and Geological Engineering, and $4 million from the Industrial Commission to fund the proposal, “Public-Private Partnership to Support Geology and Geological Engineering Education and Research at UND’s College of Engineering and Mines.”

• Altru Health System pledged $10 million gift through the UND Foundation in support of a sports medicine partnership between Altru and UND. Of that, $9 million will help fund a UND Athletics Complex, an indoor practice and competition facility on campus, and $1 million is for an artificial turf in the Alerus Center, where UND plays football.

• The University of North Dakota teamed up with NASA and MITRE Corp. for a successful Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) flight test demonstration of an automatic sense-and-avoid capability to avoid a UND Cessna 172 “intruder” plane, being flown by University instructor pilots. UND also created the nation’s first UAS Compliance Committee.

Williston State College

• WSC’s President, Dr. Raymond Nadolny, was awarded the Outstanding Leadership/Service Award from the North Dakota Association of Lifelong Learning at its annual Fall Conference in Bismarck this past September. This award represents Dr. Nadolny’s work and dedication to the GED program housed on WSC’s campus.

• WSC’s accrediting body, the Higher Learning Commission, sent peer reviewers to campus this past September for a quality checkup visit. Since then, positive reports have been received in affirming WSC’s commitment to continuous improvement. Notification of reaffirmation is expected sometime this winter.

• WSC, alongside BSC, Fort Berthold Community College, Turtle Mountain Community College, and Sitting Bull College, has been awarded a grant by the federal Labor Department in the amount of $14.6 million. These funds will be used to expand training opportunities for people interested in jobs in western North Dakota.

Upcoming SBHE Meetings

January 17 ............... BSC
March 7 ................. BSC