North Dakota State Board of Higher Education
Minutes of the November 10, 2015
Meeting with Representatives of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
State Capitol, Bismarck, ND

Members present:
Ms. Kari Reichert
Dr. Kevin Melicher
Mr. Nick Hacker
Ms. Emma Tufte, Staff Adviser

Mr. Greg Stemen
Mr. Brett Johnson
Mr. Mike Ness
Dr. Eric Murphy, Faculty Adviser

HLC Advisory Team:
Dr. Susan Rydell, Metropolitan State University
Dr. Russell Dean, West Virginia University
Dr. George Stevens, Kent State University

The meeting was open to the public and notices were posted at the Fort Totten room and the University System office on the tenth floor of the Capitol.

The Higher Learning Commission conducted a visit with the SBHE members to evaluate whether the Board and system office are working to refine and strengthen their work on systematic improvement. The HLC focused on the following areas:

- Strategic planning, goals, and evaluations processes,
- Defining the roles and responsibilities of Board members, engaging in analysis of its own goals, policies and procedures to determine whether it is achieving its objectives,
- SBHE process in evaluating the performance of the institutions it governs and engaging in strategic planning that is informed by its constituent institutions as well as be relevant, objective data about their performance and that is aligned with its efforts to improve the system and its institutions,
- Ensuring the Board is working to address issues related to goal-setting, evaluation, planning and accountability.

Further discussions were regarding the following:

- NDUS has developed a vigorous strategic plan and associated metrics through extensive consultation with stakeholders,
- The State Board of Higher Education has a clearer understanding and vision of roles and responsibilities. This has been built through SBHE orientation and trainings, the Roles and Responsibility task force, policies and procedures review, and an ongoing study of governance,
- The success of the strategic plan is measured through objective data, and the performance of the System and institutions is being evaluated.

Approved December 10, 2015.