Campus Updates – February 2017

Update Provided By: Retha Mattern

- No updates to report.

Update Provided By:

- No update submitted.

Update Provided By: Mike O’Toole

- Campus Dean discussed budget, as related to the NDUS in general and DCB specifically
  - Opportunities for how to proceed with budget were briefly discussed
  - Budget will most likely be an ongoing agenda item for upcoming Campus Forums, which all
    faculty/staff are encouraged to attend
- Campus Dean discussed deferred maintenance items/budget
  - Administrative Affairs Council will be reviewing deferred maintenance items more closely
- Children in the Workplace Policy was discussed
  - A decision was made to proceed by forming a sub committee to review the current policy
- Empty Senate Seats
  - Representatives from each respective functioning area will work within functioning area to fill vacant seats
Update Provided By: Krissy Kilwein

- Created a Staff Senate Funding Request Form and process, which is something new that we are offering to the campus.
- We are soliciting a survey in hopes to reformat the membership of Staff Senate that will better serve the employees of Dickinson State University.
- We have created a temporary committee that is looking into revamping the Staff Recognition program as well as a temporary committee to research Staff Emeritus Benefits (currently we only offer Faculty Emeritus Benefits).
Update Provided By: Bobbi Lunday

- A Campus Information Session was given by Katie Nettell, Financial Aid Director, on the importance of encouraging our students to apply for campus scholarships. She discussed where the scholarship dollars that we all work so hard to raise.
- Staff Senate compiled a campus professional development survey to help determine wants/needs for future learning opportunities. The survey was emailed to staff and faculty and the response has been good. Faculty results will be compiled and shared with Faculty Senate.
- Staff Senate President, Brigitte Greywater, participated as a member of the College Planning Committee during the yearly meeting.

Update Provided By: Misti Wuori

- Mayville State University Staff Senate has completed welcome packets to be handed out to all new hires by the Human Resources Department. All staff senate agendas, minutes, by-laws, and other documents have also been organized and moved to SharePoint. This allows access to the staff senate information for all staff, including off-campus staff.
- MaSU Staff Senate Comet Spirit Button scholarship applications for staff and faculty dependents attending Mayville State University for 2017-2018 are due February 15, 2017.

Update Provided By: Mindy Rudnick

- Minot State Staff Senate’s Bylaws committee continues to work on drafting a policy for Emeritus Staff. Our Orientation & Handbook committee will be reviewing the NDUS Reduction in Force policy to look at how the Senate can assist any staff that may be cut during the budget reductions.
- Our Staff Satisfaction committee awarded their first High-Five Award in January. The High-Five Award was created to boost morale on campus and will be presented monthly to one staff member selected from a pool of nominees submitted by faculty and staff. There were eight nominations for January and the award was presented to Jennifer Hutchins in Student Health for her dedication to assisting students and her ability to keep their office running smoothly. She also helped raise thousands of dollars for a former co-worker in their office who was diagnosed with cancer this past year. High-Five Award winners will receive their picture on a plaque displayed in the hallway of the Administration building as well as gift certificates to local businesses donated to the Senate by those businesses.
Update Provided By: Bruce Woytassek

- President Richman presented a Budget Update
  - The budget reduction task force came out with guidelines that were emailed to NDSCS employees. Administration will use these principles to help make decisions on how to reduce the appropriated budget.
  - President Richman explained that the proposed budget reduction of approximately 20% is three times the greatest budget reduction the state has experienced in the past. Many details were shared about how the budget cuts will be determined. President Richman stated that he and the Vice Presidents will be working on what reductions will need to be made this month and announcements will be made March 1st, so that those employees impacted will know. President Richman encouraged Senators to have conversations with our colleagues and help relay the budget information shared.
  - Vice President Kraft reminded Senators that if they wish to reach out to state legislators during the session, do not email legislators from your NDSCS email. Email from a private account as a concerned taxpayer, not an employee of NDSCS.

- Campus Engagement Committee – Food Drive
  - The committee attended a video conference that addressed hunger on campuses. This committee is interested in starting a food pantry on campus to help assist the students who do not have the funds to purchase food for the weekends and over breaks, when the dining hall is closed. Senators discussed having a food drive that could benefit both a campus and community food pantry.

- Sustainability Committee
  - Recycling disposal proposal – We have received a couple of proposals from outside companies, Minn-Kota and Waste Management, regarding recycling options.

- Endowment Scholarship Committee –
  - Looking forward to forming a partnership with Faculty Senate to improve the funding and awareness of the Wildcat Dependent Endowment Scholarship.

- Staff Senate Video Shoot –
  - Set for February 9, 2017 at 1:00p.m. Idea is to have an interview-type video that will take clips from each Senator answering questions about Staff Senate to encourage staff members to ask colleagues to vote for them if they are interested in joining Staff Senate.
Update Provided By: Ryan Brinkman

- We have our Discover U Event coming up on February 22. This event is one of the professional development opportunities Staff Senate sponsors throughout the year.
- We have been working on creating consistency with our By-Laws. Most recently, we have taken a look at what the responsibilities of our committees are and how we are meeting the needs of both the Senate and the individuals we serve.
- We have created a webpage specifically devoted to the current legislative session and are encouraging our members to keep up with what is going on within this session and its impact to not only them, but also higher education as a whole.
- We are beginning the planning phase for our upcoming election season.
- NDSU Day of Honor was held on January 11, 2017. We had our largest turnout for individuals to come and honor those we have lost within the 2016 year.

Update Provided By: Pam Henderson

- Vice President for Finance and Operations, Alice Brekke, has attended both our January and February Staff Senate meetings to keep the Staff Senate updated on budget impacts, as well as any information we can share regarding the legislative session.
- UND announced in January a limited-time Staff Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (SCSIP). Applications will be accepted thru February 15. Information and applications are available at [http://und.edu/finance-operations/human-resources-payroll/incentive/svsip.cfm](http://und.edu/finance-operations/human-resources-payroll/incentive/svsip.cfm).
- Staff Senate is gearing up for our 2017-18 Senate Elections. Diane Hillebrand and Pam Henderson sent letters out to the division heads seeking assistance in nominations for the ballot. The election will take place in March/April, with new Senators beginning their term in May.
- Staff Senate was asked to take over the “We Are UND” from the Finance & Operations Division, and to expand it to all divisions on campus. It is a great way to get to know staff around campus and what makes UND a great place. [http://und.edu/staff-senate/we-are-und/](http://und.edu/staff-senate/we-are-und/)
Update Provided By: Greg Carlson

- Staff Senate has been continuing to work with Cabinet on results of our Employee Satisfaction Survey. We will present findings and goals during broadband group meetings, to be held this semester.
- Staff Senate has noticed an opportunity to share more information with campus by emailing our Campus Functional Forum minutes each month. This will allow people who are not able to attend the meetings to get the same information that is shared.
- VCSU is proud to announce we set spring enrollment records for the second consecutive year. The news release can be found here: http://www.newsdakota.com/2017/02/07/vcsu-sets-spring-enrollment-record-2/.

Update Provided By: Katie Peterson

- Williston State College Staff Senate recently reviewed and approved our updated campus Title IX Policy and Procedure. We also approved professional development applications for a handful of staff members.
- The Staff Senate president continues to meet weekly with the Faculty Senate President, Campus President, VP for Student Affairs, and Director for HR to discuss important happenings on campus. Conversations recently have related to the legislative sessions’ impact on campus, as well as, staff morality.