2005–06 was a year of significant challenges and accomplishments for the State Board of Higher Education and the North Dakota University System, according to outgoing SBHE president Pam Kostelecky.

Commenting on her year as president, Kostelecky said successes realized in 2005–06 were achieved through the collaboration of the board, the campuses, private sector partners and the NDUS Office.

“I would especially like to compliment and recognize the work of our system office staff. Their support was critical to the processes that led to positive results for our unified system of higher education in North Dakota,” Kostelecky said.

2005–06 highlights from the president’s perspective include:

- SBHE commitment to sustaining the vision of the Roundtable on Higher Education
- Initiation of a committee to review roles and responsibilities of the board, the chancellor and the presidents
- Accomplishment of the annual SBHE objectives set at the 2005 board retreat
- Review of the Long Term Finance Plan and approval of changes
- Participation in and endorsement of the P–16 Education Task Force
- Successful implementation of the Centers of Excellence initiative
- Systematic response to ConnectND concerns through efforts such as the first conference of the North Dakota Higher Education Users Group (HEUG)
- Stage 1 (of 2 stages) approval of a B.A.S. at BSC
- Approval of a M.Ed. in education at VCSU
- Private sector roundtable member support for the NDUS, including increased state funding for higher education
- Development of a BSC presidential search committee and

Collaborations, Page 8

SBHE Approves Budget Priorities

As recommended by its Budget and Finance Committee and approved at the June 15, 2006, meeting, the 2007–09 State Board of Higher Education budget request will include a major capital project priority list, allocation of $4 million in capital assets funding for basic maintenance and repairs, and allocation of $10 million in one-time funding to partially address an outstanding deferred maintenance backlog that now exceeds $117 million.

The approved state-funded major capital project priorities are as follows:

1. MiSU dome floor replacement $336,400
2. MaSU West Hall renovation $3.96 million
3. UND O’Kelley Hall systems improvements $2.2 million
4. LRSC wind energy project $1.67 million
5. NDSU Minard Hall renovation - Phases I and II $5 million
6. MiSU Swain Hall renovation and addition $7 million
7. NDSCS steam line distribution $1.67 million
8. VCSU steam line distribution $2.2 million
9. MiSU–B steam line distribution $252,000
10. BSC Schafer Hall renovation $543,000

Pam Kostelecky, 2005–06 SBHE president, was awarded a commemorative gavel by John Q. Paulsen, 2006–07 SBHE president, at the close of the June 2006 SBHE meeting at Williston State College.
Gov. John Hoeven has reappointed one member of the State Board of Higher Education and appointed two new members to the board. All terms became effective July 1, 2006.

**Susan Ferguson Andrews** was appointed to a four-year term on the State Board of Higher Education in 2002 and re-appointed to a second four-year term in 2006.

Andrews was born and raised in Fargo, N.D., and graduated from Fargo South High School. She attended UND and earned a bachelor’s degree in home economics from NDSU in 1974.

Andrews is executive director of the YMCA of NDSU. She currently serves on the North Dakota Education Fact-Finding Commission, the Fargo Public Schools Foundation and the Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation.

Andrews was a member of the Fargo Board of Education from 1991 to 1998 and served as president of the board and chaired the negotiations and facilities committees. She has served as a member of the board of directors for the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board, Fargo-Moorhead Junior League, Village Family Service Center, Prairie Public Broadcasting, Fargo and West Fargo Teacher Center/Learning Bank, the Governor’s Council on the Status of Women and the Fargo Youth Commission.

Andrews and her husband Mark live in Mapleton, N.D.

The final step in Andrews’ reappointment will be a state Senate confirmation hearing during the 2007 Legislative Session.

**Charles W. Murphy** was appointed to a four-year term on the State Board of Higher Education.

A native of Porcupine, N.D., Murphy is an enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. He recently retired after 24 years of service as the tribal chairman. During that time, Murphy was responsible for operation of the Standing Rock Sioux tribal government, its departments, formal entities, service delivery programs, public water systems, housing development projects and tribal properties. The Standing Rock Indian Reservation covers 2.3 million acres of land.

Murphy is a veteran of the Vietnam War. He received the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal during his tour of duty. Murphy and his wife Ernesdean live in the Porcupine District of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

Murphy’s reappointment also must be confirmed by the state Senate during the 2007 Legislative Session.

**Nick Rogers** was appointed as the 2006-07 student member of the State Board of Higher Education by Gov. John Hoeven and will serve a one-year term from July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007.

A native of Grand Forks, N.D., Rogers is a senior majoring in pharmacy at North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D. He has been active in student government at NDSU and has been a member of Student Senate, University Senate, the Finance Commission and the Governmental and Intercollegiate Affairs Commission.

Rogers also has been active in the North Dakota Student Association and has served as its vice president and as chairman of NDSA’s State and Legislative Affairs Committee.

A Presidential Scholarship recipient, Rogers was a member of the NDSU track and cross country teams from 2003 to 2004. He currently serves as vice president and treasurer of the NDSU student chapter of the North Dakota Student Association.
The State Board of Higher Education reviewed its annual self-assessment at the June 15, 2006, board meeting.

The self-assessment survey is distributed each year in compliance with Policy 303.2, which requires the board to review and assess performance in achieving its objectives. Survey responses were solicited from SBHE members, the faculty advisor to the board, the chancellor, the vice chancellors, the campus presidents and the dean of Minot State University-Bottineau.

One of the six survey questions asked respondents to identify “the top two or three priorities on which the board should focus its attention and resources during the next 12 months.” Thirteen of the 21 respondents emphasized the importance of reaffirming the board’s core values, policies, roles and responsibilities, and the importance of a unified higher education system. Other key responses included emphasis on:

- Adequate financing and the long-term finance plan
- Development of a 2007 legislative agenda
- Support for the Roundtable on Higher Education

Pam Kostelecky, SBHE president, suggested the survey results should be considered in development of the board’s 2006–07 objectives.

SBHE Authorizes UND Litigation

At its June 15, 2006, meeting, the State Board of Higher Education authorized the University of North Dakota to pursue litigation challenging a National Collegiate Athletic Association ruling against use of the Fighting Sioux nickname and logo.

As advised by North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, the litigation will be financed through private donations. The NCAA has deemed use of American Indian nicknames “hostile and abusive.” The ruling would prohibit UND from hosting NCAA postseason tournaments and from using the nickname and logo on uniforms worn during postseason games.

Prior to going into executive session to discuss the potential lawsuit, Pat Seaworth, SBHE general counsel, and Dr. Charles Kupchella, UND president, presented an overview of the NCAA action and UND’s response. Kupchella has called the NCAA’s application of its new policy “about as solid as room-temperature Jell-O.”

Pat Seaworth, general counsel for the NDUS, and Dr. Charles Kupchella, president of UND.

SBHE Members, from Page 2


The Council of College Faculties elected Dr. John Pederson faculty advisor to the State Board of Higher Education for a one-year term beginning in July 2005 and reelected him in 2006.

Raised in Hope, N.D., Pederson is an associate professor of humanities and social science at Mayville State University and is co-chair of MaSU’s Honors Institute Committee. He is a member of CCF and served as its 2004–05 president. Pederson also served as the 2003–04 faculty representative on the North Dakota University System’s Academic Affairs Council while vice president of CCF. He is a member of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study and the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations.

Pederson serves on the Eastern North Dakota Synod Council of the ELCA and previously was president of the Mayville Lutheran Church Council. He is a member of the Sons of Norway.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in secondary education social studies from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., a master’s degree in history from the University of North Dakota and a doctorate in history from the University of Nebraska.
NDUS Chancellor Potts Resigns

Chancellor Robert Potts announced his intention to resign, subject to negotiation of an acceptable exit agreement, at a June 30, 2006, State Board of Higher Education meeting.

Potts had set forth conditions under which he would continue as chancellor of the North Dakota University System at the June 15, 2006, SBHE meeting. He asked for “explicit authority and backing from the board to insist that all of the policies, procedures and directives of the board – specifically the roles and responsibilities – are implemented fully and uniformly throughout the University System.”

On June 30, SBHE President Pam Kostelecky read a statement (below) reaffirming the board’s commitment to a unified system of higher education and to the April 15, 2004, recommendations of the Task Force on Clarifying Roles and Responsibilities. The board then passed a motion reaffirming those commitments and the expectation that all SBHE members, the chancellor and the campus CEOs support and implement the principles contained in the task force report and related policies, but Potts said he believed it would be in the best interest of the board to begin with a new chancellor. The SBHE voted to proceed as requested, and board member Richie Smith was appointed to negotiate an exit agreement.

The agreement was approved at a July 20, 2006, special board meeting. Potts’ term as chancellor ended Aug. 4, 2006. He will be available as a consultant to the board president and interim chancellor on special topics through June 30, 2007.

An interim chancellor search committee was formed at the June 30 meeting. Members included board representatives John Q. Paulsen (chair), Pam Kostelecky and Charles Murphy; Dr. Lee Vickers, president of Dickinson State University; Dr. Sharon Etemad, president of Lake Region State College; and Dr. Michel Hillman, NDUS vice chancellor for academic and student affairs. Because Vickers became a candidate for the interim position, Dr. Ellen Chaffee, president of Valley City State University, later was named to the search committee.

Vickers and Vice Chancellor Eddie Dunn were selected as finalists from a pool of nine candidates. Vickers later withdrew from the search. On August 3, 2006, Dunn was interviewed and named chancellor.

SBHE Reaffirms Commitment to a Unified System of Higher Education

Pam Kostelecky, State Board of Higher Education president, read the following statement at the board’s June 30, 2006, meeting (see article above):

There have been a number of defining moments in the development of North Dakota’s higher education system. To name a few: In 1938, the system was constitutionally established in response to an initiated measure and vote of the people. This action gave the State Board of Higher Education broad leadership responsibility for the public higher education institutions in our state. In the mid 1980s, three additional colleges were added to the system. In the 1990s, the SBHE transitioned from a coordinating body to a governing board. In 1993, legislation was enacted to place the new structure and system in state statute. Another important and defining moment in evolution of the University System was creation of the Roundtable on Higher Education in 1999. The roundtable charged the University System with continuing to provide high-quality education while broadening its mission to become a primary engine for enhancing the economic and social vitality of North Dakota.

The colleges and universities have responded admirably to this charge with phenomenal results. The roundtable initiative has since captured national attention and become a model for other states.

I believe we are again at a defining moment. With that in mind, and to make it clear we all have the same vision of what we are attempting to achieve in the months and years ahead, I propose that the SBHE reaffirm its commitment to a unified system of higher education and to the recommendations of the Task Force on Clarifying Roles and Responsibilities, including the corresponding policy revisions the board adopted on April 15, 2004. I believe doing so will put us on the firm foundation we need to move forward in meeting the expectations of the roundtable as well as the citizens and students of our state.

We recognize, as the board, our responsibility to the people and the state of North Dakota, and I do believe we are committed to governance of a strong and vibrant University System.
State Board of Higher Education

Interim Presidents Named at BSC and MaSU

Upon recommendation of Chancellor Robert Potts, the State Board of Higher Education appointed interim presidents for Bismarck State College and Mayville State University at its June 15, 2006, meeting.

Gordon Binek took office at BSC July 1, 2006, and will serve as interim president through Dec. 31, 2006, or until a new president takes office. Binek has been BSC’s vice president for college advancement and federal relations since 1999. He served as the college’s director of advancement from 1996 to 1999. The BSC vacancy was created by the June 30, 2006, retirement of Dr. Donna Thigpen.

Dr. Gary Hagen took office at MaSU July 1, 2006, and will serve as interim president until a new president takes office no later than June 30, 2007. Hagen has been MaSU’s vice president for academic affairs since 1998. He joined the university in 1976 and has served MaSU in several academic and administrative roles.

Dr. Pamela Balch left MaSU June 30, 2006, to become president of West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, W. Va.

NDUS Chancellor Named

Eddie Dunn, vice chancellor for strategic planning and executive director of the College Technical Education Council, was named chancellor of the North Dakota University System by the State Board of Higher Education Aug. 3, 2006.

Dunn will lead the NDUS through the 2007 Legislative Session and will serve as chancellor through June 2007 while a national search for a permanent chancellor is conducted. SBHE President John Q. Paulsen described Dunn as “a man of impeccable integrity who has served higher education and the state of North Dakota very, very well for many years.”

Dunn has served as the executive director of CTEC since 1993 and as a vice chancellor since 1999. He has been highly involved in development of the Roundtable on Higher Education and the University System’s response to the Economic Development Centers of Excellence initiative. He has held teaching, research, extension and administrative positions at the university level. Dunn served for nine years as vice president of the Greater North Dakota Association and is a former international president of Toastmasters International.

Consent Agenda Items Approved

Consent agenda items approved at the June 2006 State Board of Higher Education meeting include the following:

Academic Consent Agenda

- MaSU: Approve a B.S. in early childhood education/early elementary education
- NDSU: Approve Ph.D. in materials and nanotechnology
- UND: Approve an M.A. in forensic psychology
- UND: Approve establishment an engineered surfaces center
- UND: Approve merger of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences Department of Community Medicine into the Department of Family Medicine to be named the Department of Family and Community Medicine
- WSC: Approve a certificate in agronomy technician

Financial and Facility Consent Agenda

- Approval of the FY 2007 annual SBHE budget
- Approval of responses to FY 2005 audit recommendations.
- Approval of changes to the TIAA-CREF contract
- Authorization of MaSU to reduce tuition for non-resident U.S. students, except Minnesotans) from 2.67 times the North Dakota resident rate to 1.5 times the N.D. resident rate beginning Fall 2006
- Authorization of UND to increase the full-time undergraduate nursing program fee to $300 per semester, prorated at $25 per credit for part-time students, effective Fall 2006

Personnel Consent Agenda

- NDSU: Appointment of Carol Goodman to a second term on the SBARE
Bismarck State College

Groundbreaking took place May 10 for the National Energy Center of Excellence, the new name of BSC’s Career and Technology Institute. A large gathering of energy industry and business leaders, government officials and educators attended the event. May 2008 is the expected completion date of the 106,200 sq. ft. building.

In April, sophomore Preston Schmidt of Mandan was elected Division III international vice president of Phi Theta Kappa at an international conference in Seattle. Phi Theta Kappa is the two-year college honor society. Schmidt is the first North Dakotan to hold an international office in Phi Theta Kappa.

BSC’s Corporate and Continuing Education recently became certified by Learning Resources Network (LERN), the leading training and consulting service for lifelong learning professionals. LERN officials ranked CCE one of the best lifelong learning units they had reviewed.

Dickinson State University

DSU’s Center for Entrepreneurship and Rural Revitalization received $1.15 million and was designated a Center of Excellence June 14. The university’s proposal was approved by the North Dakota Budget Section during the fifth and final step in the third round of the Centers of Excellence funding process.

On June 5, DSU welcomed Dr. Douglas Woodard as director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Rural Revitalization. The center, which recently gained Center of Excellence status, focuses on revitalizing the state’s economy by encouraging and supporting entrepreneurs and fostering an entrepreneurial spirit.

The Blue Hawks men’s track and field team brought home its third consecutive win at the 55th annual NAIA Men’s Track and Field Championship in Fresno, Calif., May 25–27. Tallying 102 points, DSU became the first school in NAIA history to take home three consecutive national championships.

Lake Region State College

LRSC Farm Management instructor Jay Olson was elected president of the National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association at an annual meeting held June 8 in Omaha, Neb. The NFRBMEA benefits farmers and ranchers by promoting and improving education in the field of farm business management. Olson has been a farm management instructor at LRSC since 1978.

Mayville State University

MaSU math and science faculty welcomed K-12 teachers from Cavalier, Park River and North Border for a two-week academy beginning June 12. The MaSU Math/Science/Technology Academy of Professional Development is in its third year in partnership with the Multi-County Consortium of Schools and Edu-Tech.

MaSU students and Dr. Carolyn Baker, MaSU assistant professor of English, have been assisting the relocation efforts of Sudanese, Liberian and Rwandan refugees and immigrants in West Fargo, N.D., by instructing them in computer skills and English as a second language.

Minot State University

Gary Rabe, Ph.D., became MiSU’s vice president for academic affairs July 1. The associate professor in criminal justice joined MiSU in 1993 and has since served as department chair, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, executive director of the Rural Crime and Justice Center, and interim VPAA.

MiSU became a smoke-free campus June 1. Smoking is prohibited on university property, indoors or outdoors, and in vehicles, including personal vehicles parked on university grounds. The policy was established to protect the health and promote the wellness of students, employees and visitors.

MiSU-Bottineau

MiSU-B recently was approved to offer four new online diploma programs beginning Fall 2006. This brings to 20 the total number of programs available via this delivery method – up from just one in Fall 2001.

On May 10, MiSU-B held a groundbreaking ceremony for its Thatcher Hall Addition Project. This $2.5 million arts and humanities facility was approved in the 2005 Legislative Session. Leadership from the North Dakota House and Senate, representatives of the State Board of Higher Education and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem participated in the ceremony.
North Dakota State College of Science

NDSCS awarded its fifth honorary associate degree to Dr. Jack Pfister, NDSCS alumnus and longtime Wahpeton dentist. Pfister, the 1997 NDSCS Alumnus of the Year, was instrumental in development of the nationally recognized Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting programs at NDSCS.

In May, several NDSCS officials participated in the Academic Quality Improvement Program strategy forum. AQIP infuses the principles and benefits of continuous improvement into the culture of colleges and universities by providing an alternative process through which an already-accredited institution can maintain its accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission.

North Dakota State University

A team of seven NDSU civil engineering students won the 15th annual national student steel bridge competition at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City. NDSU is the only school in the nation to win the competition more than once, with previous championships in 1995, 2002 and 2004. Magdy Abdelrahman, assistant professor of civil engineering, is the team’s adviser.

Gov. John Hoeven presented a $2 million check to NDSU May 30 for the Center of Excellence for AgBiotechnology: Oilseed Development. The center will make available biotechnology lines of soybeans and canola with oilseed traits that have potential as biofuels, specialty lubricants and health care products. The funding will leverage nearly $11 million in private sector investment in the project.

The NDSU Saxophone Quartet, under the direction of Matthew Patnode, associate professor of music, placed third in the Music Teachers National Association Collegiate Chamber Music Competition in Austin, Texas.

University of North Dakota

Led by UND Space Studies faculty and students, a North Dakota Space Grant Consortium unveiled a new space suit in the Mars-like North Dakota Badlands in May. In addition to UND, student and faculty participants came from Turtle Mountain Community College, NDSCS, NDSU and DSU.

About 20 American Indian special education teachers spent two days in June at UND as part of a four-year, $1 million grant to United Tribes Technical College and UND’s College of Education and Human Development. The grant supports American Indian educators in earning master’s degrees in learning disabilities and early childhood special education.

UND broke ground on a $20 million student apartment complex in June. Slated to open in August 2007, it will include a common area, coffee bar with a drive-up and more. The building will provide greater comfort, privacy and cooking capabilities and will incorporate traditional main campus gothic-style red brick architecture with modern elements.

Valley City State University

VCSU received a $500,000 gift from alumnus and hospitality industry entrepreneur Gary Tharaldson and his wife Connie. The gift is the largest VCSU has ever received from a living donor.

Eide Bailly Technology Consulting has entered into a strategic alliance with VCSU under which the university will offer customized curriculum to meet the company’s specifications. The alliance was formed through VCSU’s Institute for Customized Business Solutions funded by the Centers of Excellence initiative.

Seventh-seed VCSU completed an undefeated run through the NAIA regional softball tournament to earn a spot at the NAIA national championship. In the process, the Vikings set 15 individual and team records, three athletes were selected for the DAC all-conference team and 11 athletes were named to the DAC scholar athlete list.

Williston State College

On June 14, Gov. Hoeven presented WSC a Petroleum Safety and Technology Center of Excellence check for $400,000. Industry partners were on hand, and those in attendance toured Nabors Well Service’s new computerized millennium service rig.

The Thomas Witt Leach Complex on the WSC campus was dedicated June 14. Pam Kostelecky, SBHE president, presided over dedication of the $5.7 million addition. The facility is named after Thomas Witt Leach, the surface geologist who convinced Amerada Hess Corporation to drill the state’s first producing oil well in the Williston Basin.

Upcoming SBHE Meetings
- Aug. 17, 2006  Conf. call
- Aug. 30, 2006  Retreat
Collaborations, from Page 1

- Appointment of interim presidents at BSC and MASU
- Development of a resolution of support for a unified system of higher education by 10 campus CEOs
- An SBHE resolution of support for UND’s response to an NCAA ruling on Native American nicknames and symbols
- Activation of the NDUS Foundation and appointment of a new board

- Establishment of an MaSU work group and acceptance of the group’s recommendations to strengthen the academic and financial viability of the campus
- A presentation about the success of the Roundtable on Higher Education at a conference sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago titled “Higher Education at a Crossroad”
- Selection of North Dakota for participation in a WICHE initiative to examine the connection between higher education and the state’s workforce and economic needs
- Board approval of a strong 2007-09 budget request consistent with recommendations of the roundtable
- Communication of learning management system (LMS) evolution and developments
- Development of an NDUS history based on a presentation by Larry Isaak, former NDUS chancellor