The Roundtable on Higher Education: Creating a Shared Vision for Higher Education and the State of North Dakota
North Dakota University System

- A unified system of 11 public colleges and universities:
  - Two doctoral universities
  - One master’s degree-granting university
  - Three four-year universities
  - Five two-year colleges
NDUS Colleges and Universities
North Dakota University System

- More than 42,000 students
- About 6,700 full and part-time employees
- More than 22,500 enrollments in non-credit courses
- 56.7 percent of 2002 graduates in state one year after graduation
System Governance

- State Board of Higher Education
- Chancellor
- Presidents
1990s Realities and Perceptions

- Economic downturn and declining population
- 20 years since the last study of the system
- No buy-in on the system’s strategic plan; no common vision nor clear set of expectations
- Concerns about too many institutions and an unresponsive system
- Funding differences among campuses
The First Step

The 1999 Legislative Assembly passed a resolution directing a study of the University System to specifically address:

- Expectations of the system
- A funding methodology
- Accountability measures
Roundtable Formed

61 state leaders representing:

- The private sector
- The legislative and executive branches
- Higher education, including private and tribal colleges
- Other government leaders
Roundtable Expectations

Steps must be taken to ensure:

• North Dakota’s future is not an extension of the trends of the past.
• The economic vitality of North Dakota is closely linked to the North Dakota University System.
• All of North Dakota must benefit from a stronger economy.
The NDUS Vision

The North Dakota University System is the vital link to a brighter future.
The NDUS Mission

The mission of the North Dakota University System is to enhance the quality of life of all those we serve and the economic and social vitality of North Dakota through the discovery, sharing and application of knowledge.
SBHE Core Values

- Integrity
- Honesty
- Trustworthiness
- Accountability
- Valued Partnerships
- Responsible Stewardship
- Scholarship and the Pursuit of Excellence
- Acceptance of Diverse People and Ideas
Six Cornerstones

• Economic Development Connection
• Education Excellence
• Flexible and Responsive System
• Accessible System
• Funding and Rewards
• Sustaining the Vision
Accountability Measures

- 39 measures mandated by the Legislative Assembly or requested by the State Board of Higher Education
- A yearly report created to meet “flexibility with accountability” expectations
- Additional budget and spending authority
An Evolving University System
## Roundtable Impact

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<tr>
<th>Before</th>
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<tr>
<td>640,000 visions of what a university system should be and do for the state</td>
<td>One common vision for the NDUS</td>
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<td>Multiple and conflicting expectations by stakeholders of higher education</td>
<td>A clear set of expectations agreed to and expressed through fiscal and performance accountability measures</td>
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<td>The NDUS not connected to the state’s public agenda</td>
<td>The NDUS closely aligned with the future needs and opportunities of students and the state</td>
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<td>A risk-adverse environment</td>
<td>Responsive, entrepreneurial, risk-taking campuses</td>
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<td>The NDUS viewed as a financial burden to the state</td>
<td>The NDUS viewed as an economic engine for the state</td>
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<td>The NDUS seen as individual campuses providing regional benefits</td>
<td>The NDUS seen as collectively benefiting all of North Dakota</td>
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<td>Public and private sectors working, at times, in isolation of one another</td>
<td>An increase in private/public partnerships</td>
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<td>Legislative focus on funding</td>
<td>Bold legislative action to provide “flexibility with accountability” for the NDUS</td>
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<td>The NDUS driven by a budget</td>
<td>The NDUS drawn by a vision</td>
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<td>A tendency to apply the “gotcha” mentality</td>
<td>Relationships built on mutual trust and common purpose</td>
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<td>A study of the state’s higher education system about every 10 years</td>
<td>An ongoing study of the state’s higher education system with the roundtable process keeping it alive</td>
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<tr>
<td>An agenda for each NDUS institution</td>
<td>A system-wide agenda to create a brighter future for the state and its citizens</td>
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The Roundtable: From a National Perspective

- 2002 Bellwether Award from the Community College Futures Assembly
- 2002 Innovations Award from the Council of State Governments
The Roundtable: From a National Perspective

- Nov. 15, 2004, issue
- “North Dakota has found a more comprehensive solution.”
- “Still, North Dakota is an exception.”
The Roundtable: From a North Dakota Perspective

- “… the roundtable approach … put higher education in this state on a new course that almost everyone approves”
  – Bismarck Tribune, Oct. 17, 2004

- “Our Opinion: Add ‘college’ to basket of N.D. goods”
  – Grand Forks Herald, Oct, 15, 2004

- “Higher ed roundtable got it right”
  – The Forum, Aug. 20, 2002
Integral to the Future
Enhancing the Local Economy

- Purchase of goods and services
- Creation of campus jobs and the “secondary” jobs required to support the institution, its students and its employees
- Construction
- Student and visitor spending in the community
- Strengthening the tax base
Responding to the Private Sector

- Tailoring courses to the needs of business and industry
- Providing start-up opportunities in business incubators
- Conducting industry-specific research
- Expanding access to online education
- Encouraging development of future leaders
- Expanding workforce training to rural areas
Serving the State through Collaboration

• BSC, LRSC, WSC and MiSU-B: Associate degree in registered nursing

• DSU, MaSU, MiSU, NDSU, UND, VCSU and TMCC: Partners on a $16.3 million NIH grant

• NDSCS: Telepharmacy technician training
Growing the Economy through R & D

- Impact of “flexibility with accountability”
- FY2004 NDSU and UND research expenditures: $149.5 million
- FY2004 NDSU and UND grants and contracts under management: $505 million
- NDSU and UND R & D expenditures: More than 120 percent growth since 2000
- NDSU and UND: Red River Valley Research Corridor anchor universities
How is the Roundtable Impacting North Dakotans?

- Increased access to education
- Retention of North Dakota’s youth and attraction of non-resident students
- Economic growth through public and private sector partnerships
- Economic growth through increased research and development
How Is the Roundtable Impacting (Campus Name)?
Sustaining the Vision

- Increased state funding through the Long-Term Finance Plan
For more information, go to:

www.ndus.edu

Click on:

The Roundtable on Higher Education